

The voice of Docklands | 道克蘭之音

DOCKLANDS NEWS

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The wind is our friend

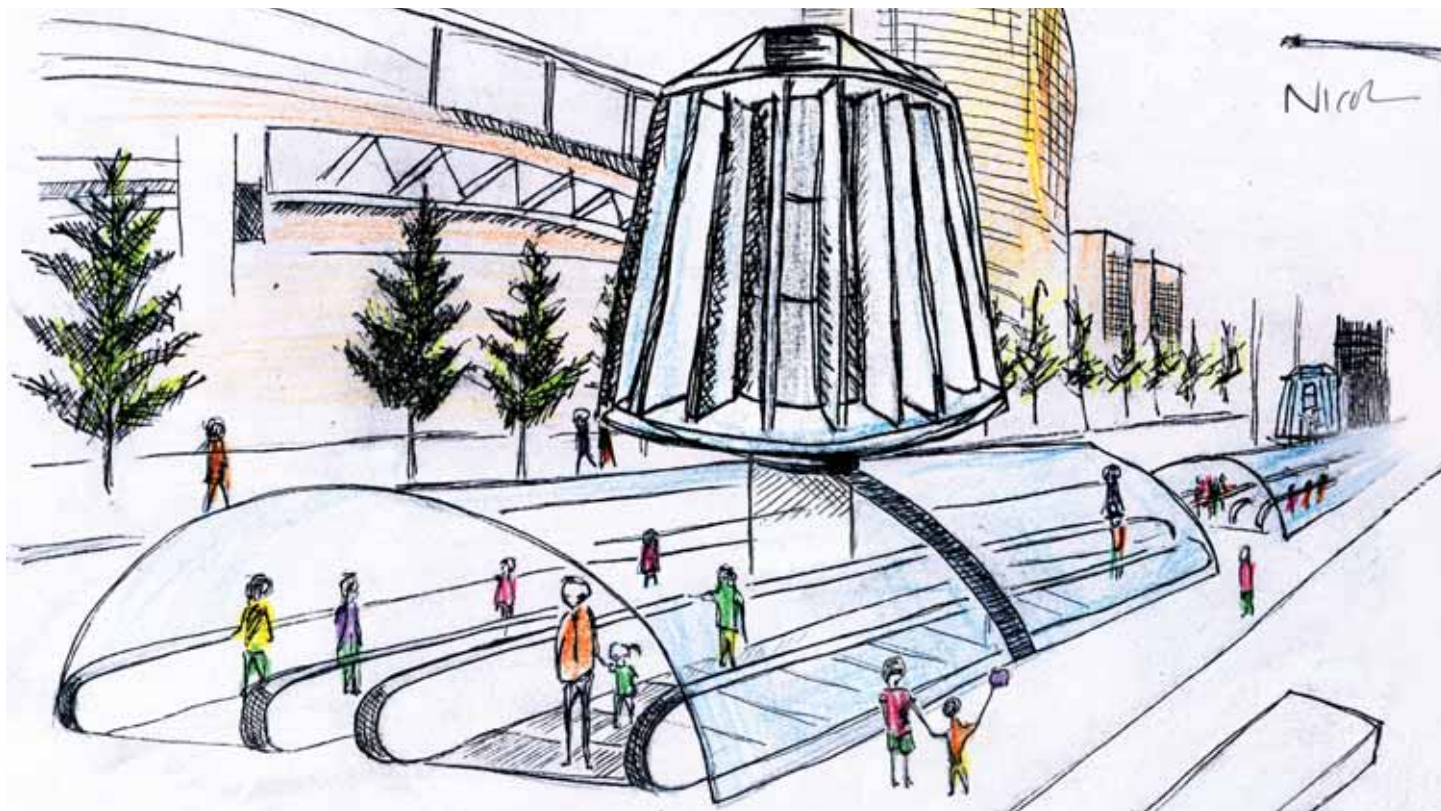
Here's an idea to put Docklands on the map that draws upon our greatest natural asset, our wind.

A wind-powered travelator has been proposed to move pedestrians along the old tram tracks as part of a redeveloped Harbour Esplanade.

Melbourne University mechanical engineering research fellow Dr Olivier Cabrit says the concept is technically possible and that vertical turbines are a good idea.

Online Survey

Have your say online at www.docklandsnews.com.au/travelator



Push for local port authority

By Bethany Williams and Shane Scanlan

Docklanders are united around a plan to declare the area a local port to overcome bureaucratic paralysis.

Locals want to see Victoria Harbour and the river between the Bolte Bridge and the MCG become a port so it can be managed by a single body.

The river is currently subject to about 20 different pieces of legislation so it is virtually impossible to introduce any reforms.

The issue has come into sharp focus from a push to introduce a dedicated and

regular commuter shuttle service between Federation Square and NewQuay.

At the Melbourne Waterfront Forum on October 17, participants were unanimous in support of a single waterways authority.

Destination Melbourne CEO Chris Buckingham suggested a ministerial taskforce was needed at the highest level to cut through the current legislative and regulatory labyrinth.

Docklands Chamber of Commerce president Stephen Clement said the waterways' governance issues were the key to activating Docklands.

The president of the Yarra River Business

Association, John Ahern, went further and pledged funds to put together a business plan which showed the need for a single governing authority.

Parks Victoria is the day-to-day regulator of activity on the river and in Victoria Harbour. But proponents of the local port authority lament that Parks is an under-funded regulator without any mandate or incentive to champion reform.

They argue that Parks is merely a contracted service-deliverer, but what is needed is an authority with the vision, energy and capacity to return multi-million dollar value back to the community.

They point to other "local ports" around

Victoria such as Port Fairy and Lakes Entrance where the local municipality runs things via a committee of management representing all stakeholders.

City of Melbourne officers say they need to be directed by councillors if they are going to pursue the idea.

The council's city design director Rob Adams publicly supported the concept at the inaugural Docklands Community Forum last month.

A City of Melbourne spokesperson said the management of Docklands' waterways was cumbersome, with over 20 different authorities or pieces of legislation governing its use and environment.



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Let's define our essence and create our brand

Another year is drawing to an end and still we wait for the spark that is going to activate Docklands.

Everybody knows that the future is brilliant. But the here and now is a struggle and one of the reasons for this is our brand.

People will say that Docklands doesn't have a brand ... that we need a brand to move forward. Of course they are right. We do need an official brand. And we need to all work together to create one.

But it is also true to say that we already have a brand - and that brand is tarnished.

"Brand" is an interchangeable term with "reputation" and, in the wider public perception, Docklands is on the nose.

The shock-jocks, highly-opinionated social commentators (who used to perform the more mundane and currently-out-of-vogue job of reporting "news"), assorted intellectual pygmies and various other ill-informed, self-appointed experts continue to feed a circle of self-fulfilling doom and delight in our misfortune.

As reported elsewhere in this edition, 40 per cent of our restaurants closed this year and this will further damage our brand. Which came first: Falling patronage or brand decay? Chicken or egg?

There is plenty of blame to go around. But what is important is that we all do something about improving our brand.

After all, we ALL feel the effects - whether we are developers trying to sell or lease property, corporations seeking to attract and retain staff, businesses trying to earn a crust, workers seeking engagement or residents interested in our house prices or just wishing to be more proud of Docklands.

We are all in this together.

Brands can't be imposed or imported. They

Comment

Shane Scanlan



need to be home-grown and owned. So all Docklanders need to come together to talk about our reputation and how we would like to be perceived.

The Docklands Community Forum is the obvious place for this to happen.

This entity is yet to add any value and won't do so unless it gets its teeth into something meaty like this. All the players are present. Goodwill is abundant and the opportunity for positive outcomes is there to be grasped.

Our peak bodies, the Docklands Chamber of Commerce and Destination Docklands, have new political leadership. The time has never been better for old differences to be forgotten.

The chamber has put its hand up to drive the branding process but everyone needs to contribute.

Let's talk frankly and openly about what has gone wrong, what lessons can be learned and how we can move forward.

What are our values? What makes us special? What are we offering? What do we want? What is our essence?

Let's define these things and work towards a common position that we can all proudly shout to the rest of the world.

Logos are typically misinterpreted as brands. A visual representation of brand is important. But it is what is behind the picture or tag line that is most important.

Obviously it is a difficult task to draw out and define our common story. We all have different agendas and interests.

But, at a time when our backs are to the wall, we simply must do it.



Arts and Laughs to return to Docklands

The Docklands Arts and Laughs Festival is set to become an annual event.

According to event organiser Melissa Head, the inaugural festival last month was a great success.

Ms Head said the event was well supported and was attended by locals and visitors.

She said many events at the Wonderland Spiegeltent had sold out and the blues festival, featuring bands playing along NewQuay Promenade, had drawn a great crowd.

"Hundreds of blues fans and families came down and enjoyed the blues festival on Sunday along the waterfront," Ms Head said.

The festival featured a range of events including music, comedy and children's shows at a variety of restaurants and venues around Docklands.

Ms Head said the festival would be an annual event that would continue to grow.

"It will place the area on the map and showcase Docklands every year," she said.

"It's an opportunity to celebrate what we love about Docklands and showcase the many traders and restaurants. That's what festivals are all about."

The Docklands Arts and Laughs Festival will return to Docklands in the first week of October next year.

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Short-stay operator backs down

City of Melbourne action against short-term accommodation in Docklands residential towers has been bolstered by the withdrawal of the major operators from a Building Appeals Board case.

Short-stay operator Yezz Pty Ltd, which operates Grand Harbour Accommodation, was representing 22 owners in the case.

Last year the council issued building orders against 30 owners using apartments for short-stay accommodation, challenging them to either cease trading or comply with onerous building regulations applicable to hotels.

At the time, some owners stopped using their apartments as serviced apartments while 26 appealed the orders in the Building Appeals Board.

The Building Appeals Board (BAB) reconvened on October 9 in an attempt to establish whether or not Yezz was withdrawing from the case.

Yezz wasn't represented at the directions hearing, and BAB chairman Leslie Schwarz issued directions to establish if Yezz was still appealing council's decision to issue the building orders.

Watergate Owner's Corporation (OC) lawyer Tom Bacon said it was understood that Yezz had withdrawn its representation of the owners in early October and that those owners had had their appeals dismissed by the BAB.

However, the BAB said a determination to dismiss the appeals of the owners had not been issued yet.

Yezz declined to speak with *Docklands News*. Its lawyer Toby Cogley also declined to comment.

Only four owners remain in the case, represented by Docklands Executive Apartments.

The appeal before the BAB reconvenes on November 5.

Yezz's appeal was being heard alongside the case of short-stay operators Paul Salter and Belinda Balcombe, who own Docklands Executive Apartments.

Each party had different legal representation but both were arguing against the City of Melbourne's claim that the operators were breaching the Building Code of Australia.

The council is using the Watergate example as a test case in an attempt to outlaw the practice of using residential apartments for

stays of less than 30 days.

City of Melbourne alleges that short-stay rentals should be classified as "class 3" which is usually reserved for hotels and rooming houses. Watergate is a residential building and classified as "class 2".

It is widely held that the costs involved in converting apartments to comply with class 3 would be prohibitive.

It appears that Grand Harbour Accommodation will soon cease operations at Watergate as its online booking system is not taking bookings after November 7.

The Watergate case is being watched with interest by short-stay operators around Australia.



Photographer David Bignell captured this image as a series of pictures which he later spliced together to make this stunning panoramic shot.

One step closer

The final section of the Southern Star Observation Wheel rim has been installed, bringing the project one step closer to completion.

Southern Star spokesperson, Ken Davis, said the timing of work for the next phase of the project would be heavily influenced by Melbourne's weather.

The next phase of construction involves welding of the drive rail around the outer rim, removal of the temporary yellow steel trusses and site rectification works.

After this work has been completed the first cabins will be installed. Mr Davis said Southern Star Management Group was unable to confirm when this would be.

He said an opening timeline would be announced when installation of the cabins had commenced.

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Victoria Harbour

Merchant Street Retail Precinct, Victoria Harbour

Andrew keeps the faith

Despite its apparent failure as a retail precinct, MAB Corporation chief Andrew Buxton remains upbeat about NewQuay.

He is building a strategy around sustainable activation of the water and a quality dining offering in the precinct.

He advocates the removal of the western end of Central Pier to allow more water activity in Victoria Harbour.

“We’ve been pushing for it to be removed and we hit a hurdle because it was too hard. But I think if they did remove that it would be fantastic for the little boats because it would open it right up,” he said.

“Docklands is getting there and it’s got to be better. I’d still like to see more people come up from the bay to this precinct.”

Mr Buxton is a supporter of a commuter ferry between Federation Square and Waterfront City.

“Once the (Southern Star Observation) wheel’s up and once you have got the anchor of the wheel, I think it will be fantastic. But I think it’s got to go from the tennis centre to here with the various stop offs.”

“The ferry idea sounds fantastic. In theory, it sounds really good and once it’s going and connected to the Myki system, I reckon it’s going to be fabulous.”

Like many others, Mr Buxton also supports the call for a single authority to govern the river.

“It’s obvious – the less imposition, the better,” he said. “No one will make a decision;

they’re afraid to make a decision.”

But he doesn’t think that a punt across Victoria Harbour would work.

“They’re not going to come on a punt. If I worked at the ANZ Bank, I would walk down and catch the City Circle Tram,” he said.

“They need to be educated about how often it comes past and when it comes past. We’ve got to educate these people that they come across here.”

He said there was little point promoting NewQuay as a dining destination in its current state.

“Once we know we have a nucleus of some good restaurants and we know that the make-up is right, we can promote it. By then, the wheel will be finished and the Conder Plaza will be complete with artworks.”

He also acknowledges that the area’s reputation has suffered.

“We’ve got to forget that and start to re-promote it,” he said. “I don’t want to launch anything until it’s right.”

“We recognise that the quality has gone down. And at the moment I can’t recommend it. They will come down here if the offer is right.”

On a personal level, Mr Buxton has an



idea which he believes will add to the attractiveness of Docklands and uses the wind to advantage.

“What is the enemy of Docklands? It’s the wind. So let’s turn it into our friend,” he said.

“We’re going to build a machine out in the water as part of the arts package. It spins around and the more it spins, the more energy it harnesses. And I’m going to convert

that energy into a water-blowing machine.”

“So, on the hour, sitting out here, it’s going to go vroom! And the more it blows, the bigger the noise and the bigger the water. We’ve got engineers working on it. I’m committed to it. But first I’ve got to make it work.”

“We need a whole series of things which added together will be greater than the sum of the parts,” he said.



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Council election result is positive for Docklands

By Shane Scanlan and
Bethany Williams

The strong return of Team Doyle in last month's City of Melbourne election should be a positive for Docklands.

Team Doyle's block of five (out of 11) councillors are Docklands supporters and the former councillors returned at the

election have positive views of Docklands.

New councillor Stephen Mayne is also on the record as a Docklands supporter.

Docklands Chamber of Commerce president Stephen Clement said he was looking forward to working with a pro-Docklands council over the next four years.

At the election Robert Doyle and Susan Riley were re-elected lord and deputy lord mayor. Councillors Kevin Louey, Ken Ong, Jackie Watts and Cathy Oke were returned.

The new councillors are Arron Wood,

Beverley Pinder-Mortimer, Richard Foster, Rohan Leppert and Stephen Mayne.

Some six Docklanders were in the election mix this year. The below-the-line vote count for Docklands' councillor candidates was:

Michele Anderson – 20; Gerard Anderson – 47; Maree Norris – 6; Sally Hewitt – 17.

Docklands had one leadership team up for election, which comprised Keith Rankin and Grace Han. The team received 1438 votes (2.31 per cent of the votes).

The Docklands community came together

last month for a "meet the candidates" night on October 16 (pictured above).

About 50 people attended the event, which was hosted by the Rotary Club of Docklands and was chaired and moderated by *Docklands News's* Shane Scanlan.

The event gave the community the chance to hear from mayoral and councillor candidates from nine different tickets. The candidates each spoke for four minutes before taking questions from the community. Hot topics included the cancellation of the Docklands New Year's Eve family fireworks.

Sorry, we're closed for food

So far this year, Docklands has lost about 40 per cent of its restaurants.

NewQuay has been hardest hit, but the 16 closures have been spread across all precincts.

NewQuay has been particularly susceptible to the collapse of Lou Jovanovski's collection of Docklands restaurants which had been steadily increasing in number over the years.

The Docklands Directory of 2010 advertised nine of Mr Jovanovski's Docklands offerings, but he walked away from the last one in September blaming "greedy landlords" as the primary source of his problems.

Of the 44 restaurants listed in the 2012 Docklands Directory (www.docklandsdirectory.com.au), 16 have closed their doors. In NewQuay, Docklands has lost Blue Fire Charrascaria Grill; Funky Curry; Grill66 Steakhouse and Wine Bar; Kobe Jones; Livebait; Mecca Bah; Mischa's Pizza, Pasta and Salad; and Shiraaz.

In Victoria Harbour Indian Mirchi; Messini; and Madonna's at the Docks have closed and near the stadium Docklands has lost Docked and L amore.

In Harbour Town, Orient Express never really got going before closing. Melbourne Bay Restaurant in Digital Harbour closed last month, while Wilson's Boat House at North Wharf ceased trading earlier this year.

Other hospitality outlets to close in Docklands this year are Urban Burger on the Stadium Concourse and MYO in Batman's Hill Drive.

Mr Jovanovski said his Rivers Group of restaurants had been "keeping the lights on" in NewQuay and Waterfront City for the past seven years.

He said the various developers would approach him each time an incumbent operator folded and each time he would step into the breach.

Mr Jovanovski said most leases in the area were signed between 2005 and 2007 when there was a completely different market.

"It was a totally different market back then. It was a world of promise," he said. "We tried to hang on but it was no longer do-able."

He said landlords had refused to offer realistic rentals and now it was too late.

"They've shot themselves in the foot because now they have ended up with a ghost town," Mr Jovanovski said. "They have totally devalued their own investments."

Other Rivers Group properties to close in Docklands in recent years include Hot Chocolate, Saganaki Greek Cuisine, Fish Seafood Grill and Yum Cha Dragon.

He said he had lost \$10 million, was very angry and was taking 12 months off to recharge.

In 2007, The Age wrote: "While Jovanovski's

restaurants may not always get enthusiastic critical acclaim, they do draw a crowd, some feat considering the often ghost town-like atmosphere in Docklands."

Mr Jovanovski was also critical of the time taken to rebuild the Southern Star Observation Wheel and the vigour and direction of marketing Docklands.

He said he had previously organised and co-ordinated highly successful marketing campaigns promoting Docklands but had been sidelined by the establishment of Destination Docklands.

"They said I had a conflict of interest," he said. "The only thing I can see that they have achieved since had been to wrap a tram in the City of Melbourne's colours."

Docklands Chamber of Commerce president Stephen Clement said it was vital to remain focused on the good things about Docklands.

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Inside Docklands’ library

By Bethany Williams

Construction of a “21st century library” began in Victoria Harbour in Docklands last month.

But what exactly is a 21st century library and what will it mean for Docklands?

In order to find out *Docklands News* spoke to Ian Hicks.

Mr Hicks is City of Melbourne’s manager of community strengthening and is one of the people overseeing the library project.

According to Mr Hicks, the Docklands Library and Community Centre will be a place for people to learn, participate and connect in a physical and a digital environment.

The facility will combine traditional elements of a library with modern technology and a range of community resources.

Mr Hicks said the Docklands Library and Community Centre would be focused on bringing the community together.

“The way we’ve approached it is to say what are those things that are common to all of us in the world that might bring people together,” he said.

The team working on the project found that most people shared a common interest in music, entertainment, literature, reading, performance, culture, history, arts, heritage and socialising.

Mr Hicks said these interests had been used to define how the library and community centre would work.

The building will have different features and themes on each of its three levels.

Mr Hicks said the ground floor would be a place for people to meet and would include an area for activities such as art classes, a space for story-time and interactive tables.

“You’ll see a real vibrancy and a real liveliness about it,” Mr Hicks said of the ground floor.

One level up, on the second floor, will be an area reminiscent of a traditional library.



City of Melbourne’s manager of community strengthening Ian Hicks

Mr Hicks said it would be a more conventional library space, which would house most of the library’s collection.

It is expected that the Docklands Library will add up to 50,000 items to the City of Melbourne’s 170,000-strong collection.

Mr Hicks described the second floor of the library as “a more reflective space” and said it would be an arts and heritage-focused area.

The library will provide physical and digital resources to explore the indigenous, settlement and maritime history of Docklands.

Mr Hicks said Lend Lease, in partnership with the council, had already done some preparatory work for this through its oral history project.

Walking up one flight of stairs will lead library visitors to a space of creativity.

Mr Hicks said the third floor would include room for music and entertainment, a “makers space” with facilities for workshopping music, along with performance space that would seat up to 120 people.

Although libraries are changing, Mr Hicks said the idea that people trust libraries, as spaces to learn, participate and connect, won’t fade away.

He said it was important that the Docklands library met the needs of a new generation or people.

“Our hope is that, in an Australian context, this will be a very contemporary offer in terms of libraries,” Mr Hicks said.

New jellyfish spotted

By Georgina Scambler

Eagle-eyed Docklanders may have noticed a different species of jellyfish lurking in the water around Docklands.

Larger, more colourful and with longer tentacles than the blue blubbers that have previously been abundant in the harbour, the new jellyfish is *Cyanea annaskala*, or lion’s mane.

Melbourne Museum jellyfish expert Joanna Browne said the lion’s mane was more likely to sting than the blue blubber, but was not extremely dangerous.

“They’re not like irukandji or box jellies that you find up north, they’re not likely to kill you,” Ms Browne said.

According to Ms Browne, different species of jellyfish often vary in abundance over time, with Lion’s Mane tending to be more dominant in the winter months, and blue blubbers between September and March.

Ms Browne said drought conditions may have made blue blubbers more dominant in recent years.

“Now that we’ve had more rainfall and differing conditions in the bay, you might find that *Cyanea* becomes more dominant for a while,” she said.

Recent data published by the University of Western Australia suggests that man-made structures like harbours and shipping facilities provide ideal habitats for jellyfish polyps to grow, thus explaining apparent increases in jellyfish blooms.

Ms Browne said this was likely to be a bigger issue in “massively overdeveloped” places such as China than in Melbourne.

“Nobody really knows exactly what triggers different species,” Ms Browne said.

Read about the lion’s mane jellyfish at www.portphillipmarinelife.net.au/species/7761

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It feels good to Micah

Like many four-year-old boys, Micah Cheung loves trains.

However, unlike most four-year-olds, Micah can read about trains in books written in Braille.

Micah is vision-impaired and attends Gowrie Harbour Family and Children's Centre in Docklands.

He has attended Gowrie since he was 18 months old and the staff have incorporated Braille into the centre's programs in a variety of ways.

Notices put up around the centre are Brailled, the children have learnt about Braille artists and the centre has been visited by paralympian Ian Speed, who also has a vision-impairment.

By incorporating Braille in these and other ways, Gowrie hopes to enable Micah to reach his potential and also to educate his peers about vision-impairment.

Gowrie educator Ceri May said Micah's peers were keen to incorporate Braille into their programs and to make sure Micah was included.

Minister for Children and Early Childhood Development, Wendy Lovell, visited the centre last month to learn more about the Braille program.

She said it was clear that the staff at the centre were doing a fantastic job.



Vision Australia's Sue Hartley, Minister Wendy Lovell, Gowrie educator Ceri May and Micah Cheung.

"It's clear he has a lot of confidence and that they are setting him up for his future education," Ms Lovell said.

Sue Hartley, from Vision Australia has worked with Micah since he was a toddler and said, in her experience, Gowrie's Braille program was unique.

She said Gowrie had not only provided the assistance needed for Micah to reach his potential but had also created a supportive environment.

"It's fantastic how Gowrie has taken on Micah's needs and created such an inclusive environment," Ms Hartley said.

Micah's mother, Elaine Wong agreed that Gowrie had provided an exceptional opportunity for Micah to learn.

Micah will start school next year and Ms Wong said she was busy looking for a school that would be able to support Micah's needs in the same way Gowrie had.

Watergate evacuated

Watergate's north tower was evacuated last month due to an apartment fire.

Watergate building manager Marshall Delves said the fire started in the early hours of October 16 and was caused by candles that had been left burning.

Mr Delves said the fire was put out quickly because the apartment residents were woken by a smoke alarm and knew where to find a fire extinguisher.

The fire sprinkler was also activated and the fire brigade attended the building.

Mr Delves said all Watergate residents took part in a fire safety and evacuation induction when they moved into the building.

"The biggest problem that we have is, with the serviced apartments operating in the building, none of the short-term tenants have any induction to the building whatsoever," Mr Delves said.

Mr Delves said there were concerns that people staying in short-term accommodation would not be aware of evacuation procedures in an emergency.

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Inspect By appointment

With a large balcony that is approximately 25 sqm, how could you resist this stunning one bedroom apartment at Yarra's Edge. During the day this wonderful apartment is bathed in natural sunlight and by night you will be mesmerized by the magnificent CBD backdrop. The full sized open living area will suit the entertainer in you and if you love to cook, the gourmet kitchen includes a symphony of quality appliances with stone bench tops. The main bedroom overlooks the CBD backdrop and offers BIR and balcony



Docklands 2001 / 60 Lorimer Street

DIRECT WATER FRONTAGE ON TOP FLOOR

2+1 Bed 2 Bath 2 Car

Private Sale \$840,000

Inspect By appointment

Presentation perfect with unrivalled 300 degree panoramic views of the Docklands precinct across the bridges to the bay and to the city skyline is this impressive apartment. Included is two bedrooms, separate study, two bathrooms, air con/ heating, video intercom and is on the top floor of the building. Its pure excellence also including two security U/C car spaces complete with lift access, and the use of the pool, gym, sauna, spa and steam room.



Docklands 1507 / 8 McCrae Street

THIS WILL NOT LAST LONG

2+1 Bed 2 Bath 1 Car

Private Sale \$630,000

Inspect By appointment

Perfectly located on the east side of Village Docklands facing the CBD and the Yarra is this impressive 15th floor, light filled apartment with winter Garden terrace with views as far as the eye can see. Consisting of 2 bedrooms (the master with private ensuite), a study, a modern and stylish kitchen open to the dining/lounge, perfect for entertaining family and friends before heading into the town for a night of fun. Close to public transport, Crown Casino, Southbank, Docklands Precinct and all that exciting Melbourne has to offer.



Docklands 2301/70 Lorimer Street

JUST ENJOY THE VIEWS

4 Bed 3 Bath 2 Car+S

Private Sale \$1,420,000

Inspect By appointment

Presentation perfect with unrivalled panoramic views to the Yarra, Port Phillip Bay and the city skyline, is this impressive four bedroom apartment. With three bathrooms high up in Yarra's edge Tower 3 is the epitome of inner city living. Capturing glorious northern sun, this immaculate home enjoys open plan entertaining with balcony terrace, designer Smeg appliances kitchen/ meals, hotel style main bedroom (BIRs & ensuite) & a wing of 4 bedrooms (BIRs), family bathroom.



Docklands 302 / 60 Siddeley Street

WAKE UP TO THESE VIEWS

2 Bed 1 Bath 0 Car

Private Sale \$510,000

Inspect By appointment

Here is a spectacular two bedroom apartment directly facing the water and Crown Casino that provides you with full convenience due to its great location. Flinders Wharf is situated a short walking distance from the Melbourne CBD, Southern Cross Station, the Melbourne famous Crown Casino, Entertainment Centre and Melbourne's new Convention Centre. Located on the 3rd floor and less than 3 minutes drive away from the freeway excess and the convenience and excitement of inner city living.



Docklands 1604 / 60 Siddeley Street

3 Bed 1 Bath 1 Car

Private Sale \$710,000

Inspect By appointment

This apartment is located in the stunning Flinders Wharf building is a must see. Consisting of 3 spacious bedrooms including master with WIR and ensuite. The large dining and lounge opens to a balcony that has views a plenty. You can see the entire docklands precinct with views also across to the bay. You have full access to all building facilities which consists of large lap pool, spa, steam room, sauna and fully equipped gymnasium.



Docklands 111/ 30 New Quay Prom.

MAJESTIC VIEWS WITH HUGE TERRACE

3 Bed 2 Bath 2 Car

Private Sale \$900,000 plus

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Located in the highly sought after Sant' Elia. This stylish boutique building consisting of only 44 apartments is prime real estate. With uninterrupted views across Victoria Harbour, inclusive of an unusually large 63m2 terrace, this is truly the ideal space for entertaining.

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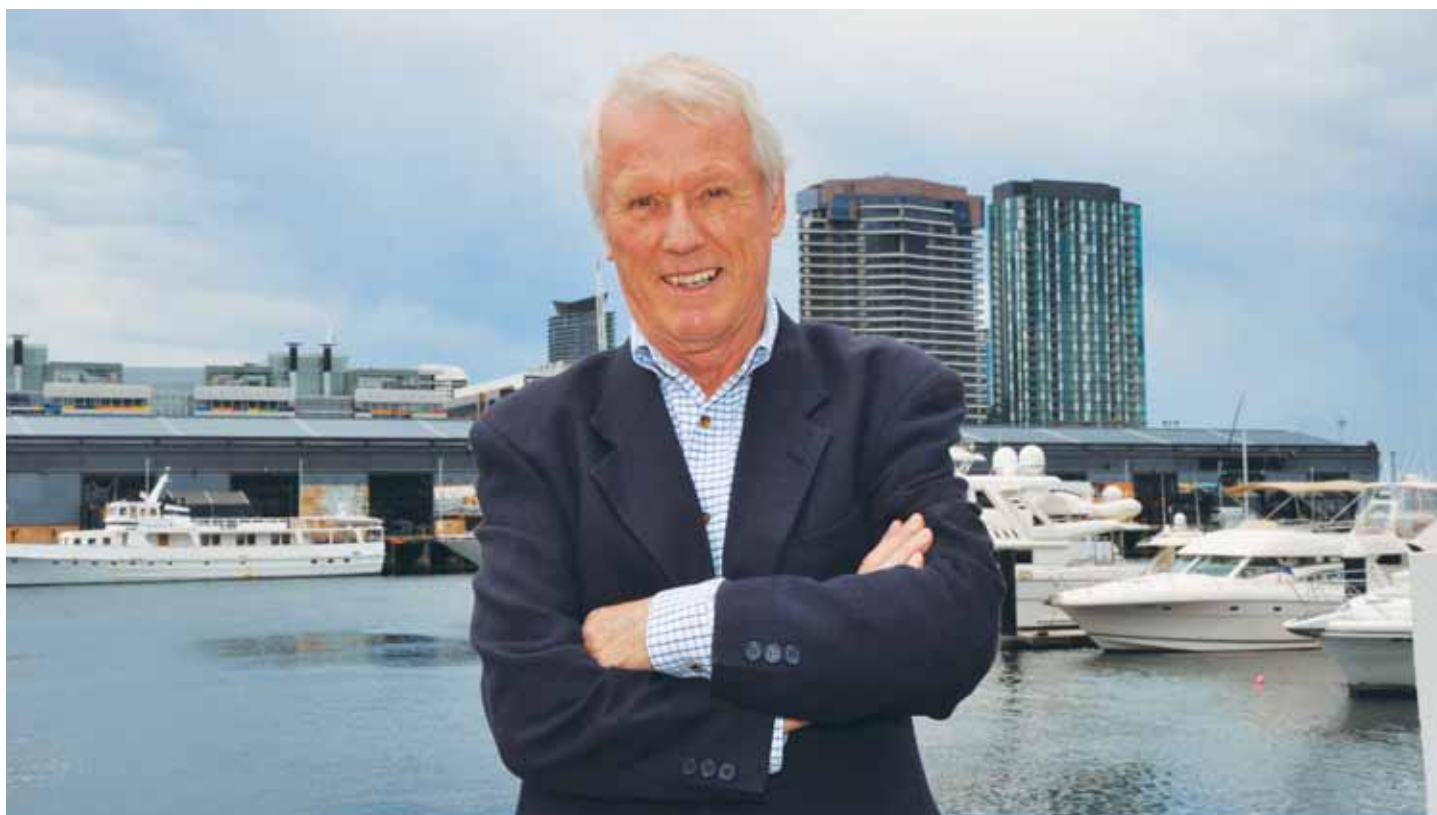
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DOCKLANDS + NEWS NETWORKING LUNCH

Last local networking for the year

The last Docklands News Networking Lunch will be held on December 7 at Hooks at Yarra's Edge.

The lunch is held four times a year and usually attracts between 60 and 80 guests.

It is an informal event aimed at connecting local business people over lunch.

Again, the cost will be \$60 and bookings and payments need to be received by *Docklands News* by December 1.

Email lunch@docklandsnews.com.au or phone us on **8689 7979**.

The menu will be:

Entrée:

- Antipasto platter to share.

Main:

- Vegetarian risotto OR
- Fish of the day OR
- Crumbed Prawns
- OR Porterhouse Steak

Dessert:

- Chocolate mousse
- OR Apple pie
- OR Cheese platter for two.

Beverages:

- Tap beer, house red and white wine and soft drinks.

A place for the young at heart

Older Docklanders are an elite group.

According to 2011 census data, people aged over 65 years make up only 4.5 per cent of Docklands' population.

Whilst they are a small bunch they make their presence known and many are active members of the Docklands community.

A recent study, commissioned by City of Melbourne and conducted by LaTrobe University's Australian Institute for Primary Care and Ageing, found Docklands' older population perceives living in Docklands as a positive experience.

The study involved 64 Melburnians, including 19 Docklanders, who ranged in age from early 60s to early 80s.

A City of Melbourne spokesperson said the Docklands participants had reported they liked Docklands' modern atmosphere, enjoyed the outdoor spaces and felt safe, respected, included and connected.

Karl Berberich (pictured above) agrees that Docklands is a great place for retirees to live.

Mr Berberich and his wife moved from a house in Glen Waverley to an apartment in Docklands six years ago.

Mr Berberich said before he moved to

Docklands a lot of his time was spent gardening and doing maintenance work.

Living in Docklands has eliminated this hassle, giving him a lot more free time to enjoy his retirement.

Mr Berberich said he enjoyed living in Docklands because of the diversity, easy access to transport and the convenient location.

He also said there were plenty of opportunities for older residents to be involved with the community.

Over the past six years, Karl has been involved with the community association, Watergate Owners Corporation and the Melbourne Probus Club.

Although Mr Berberich and the research project participants reported many positives, they also found some drawbacks with living in Docklands.

The City of Melbourne spokesperson said negative experiences reported by the Docklands participants included rowdy crowds, unhappiness with the short-term use of some apartments and feeling disconnected with the public planning process.

Mr Berberich agreed that planning was a concern.

He said many residential buildings were too close together and that there should be more open spaces in Docklands.

According to the City of Melbourne spokesperson, the main concern for the participants was the lack of visitor parking.

The spokesperson said the Docklands participants felt this could lead to social isolation and restrict access to support as they got older.

However, according to the City of Melbourne spokesperson, the Docklands participants were generally satisfied with the availability of community services, facilities and transportation in Docklands.

Mr Berberich said he was happy living in Docklands and had no plans to leave.

"Docklands is beautiful," he said.

A City of Melbourne spokesperson said the findings of the research project would be used in the development of the Lifelong Melbourne action plan 2013-2016 and other plans regarding ageing and home and community care.

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Kids plan for a sustainable future

Over 600 primary and secondary school students visited Docklands last month for the 2012 Melbourne Water International Kids Teaching Kids Conference.

The three-day conference brought together local and international students from more than 70 schools and focused on engaging the younger generation in the management of catchments, rivers, oceans and coasts into the future.

Students were involved in a range of sustainability activities run by the Kids



Teaching Kids team alongside Docklands-based businesses and organisations including Melbourne Water, Places Victoria and Lend Lease.

Activities included painting on the hoarding of the developing Docklands Library and Community Centre and making veggie patches in the community garden.

Students from Albert Park College also ran a vertical schools workshop after being mentored by Places Victoria earlier this year.

The workshop aimed to generate ideas for vertical schools that incorporated energy and water sustainability.

“What better way to understand what a school of the future might look like than to ask the people who will use them,” Places Victoria CEO Sam Sangster said.

Party time at Platform 28

Local workers took advantage of Platform 28’s second birthday last month to cement friendships over a drink.

Represented at the party on October 25 were Opteon, Channel 9, MLC and NAB (pictured below).



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Dr. Anne Dynon

Docklands Commune

A colourful new addition has joined Docklands' public art collection.

Commune has found a home in Docklands Park, where it was installed last month.

The sculpture is a temporary installation, which will be in Docklands until December 16.

Commune was commissioned by the City of Melbourne as part of its Arts Grants program.

Artist Andrew Atchison (pictured right) said the piece took about a year to create from the initial concept to installation.

The sculpture was constructed from a powdered steel frame and spray-painted nylon marine ropes.

"It's meant to look like a beaded curtain," Andrew said.

Commune is located in Docklands Park between Bourke St and Collins St.



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

3 Collins Square open for business

Walker Corporation last month officially launched the first tower in its \$1.5 billion Collins Square development.

3 Collins Square is the first completed tower in the development, which is currently the largest commercial precinct under construction in Australia.

The Australian Tax Office (ATO) has occupied the tower since June, with 2500 of its staff making the move to Docklands.

The building features 5 Star Green Star and 5 Star NABERS energy ratings, which Walker Corporation said would set the standard for the rest of the project.

The official opening followed the announcement that the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA) is also relocating to the Collins Square development.

CBA will join Marsh Mercer at 1 Collins Square, which is set to be the tallest commercial tower in Docklands.

Docklands is steadily becoming Melbourne's banking district with CBA joining ANZ, NAB and Bendigo Bank, whose headquarters are already based in Docklands.

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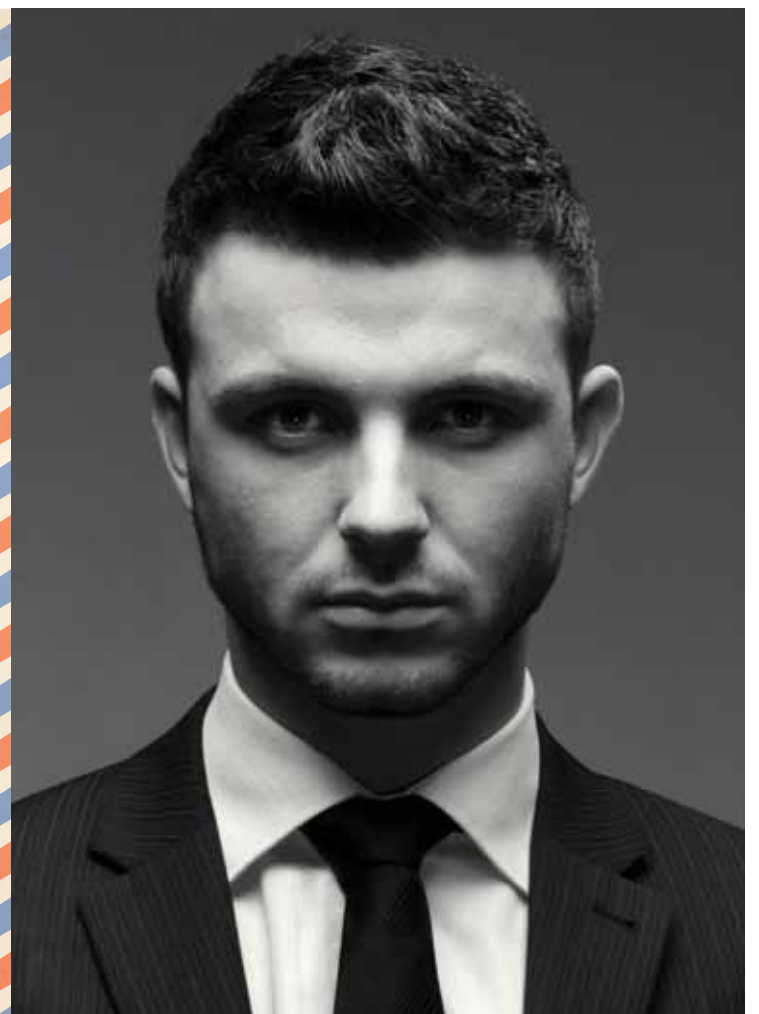
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Grants build community

By Georgina Scambler

Docklands Community Garden and Docklands Community Association were among the recipients of City of Melbourne grants announced in October totalling \$632,000.

The grants were made available to not-for-profit community groups for projects which support and enhance the community.

Anca Grigoras, from Docklands Community Garden, said its \$2000 grant would be used to fund four quarterly planning activities.

"We will also perhaps engage people to donate supplies and knowledge," she said.

According to Docklands Community Association president Roger Gardner, the DCA has yet to decide how its \$3000 grant would be spent.

"We will consider the use of the grant at our next meeting," Mr Gardner said. "We are very pleased that we've received it."

170 projects received grants.

"It's very heartening to have received so many applications for smart ideas to support our community," City of Melbourne CEO Kathy Alexander said.

Win a "mansformation"

Man What a Fuss has five "mansformation" packages up for grabs.

Valued at \$500 each, the packages promise to have the winners feeling like new men.

To enter visit www.manwhatafuss.com before November 30 and share why you, or a friend, should win.



Durian disaster

Who would have thought that a piece of fruit could cause the evacuation of a whole office floor?

That's exactly what happened last month at an office building in NewQuay when an office worker decided to eat durian at his desk.

Durian is a tropical fruit, which is renowned for its strong smell.

The fruit is very popular in Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia and Vietnam, but those who haven't smelt it before often compare it with sewerage or gas.

Linda Sin owns and operates Ma's Noodle Café, which sells packaged durian.

Ms Sin said she always reminded customers who purchased the fruit not to open the package around other people due to the strong smell.

Last month she sold a package of durian to a

customer and about an hour later noticed a crowd of office workers gathered outside.

The office worker had opened the package at his desk and the smell of the fruit had wafted into the air vents and spread into every office on the floor.

Other workers had panicked thinking there was a gas leak in the building and had raised the alarm, leading to the entire floor of 40 people being evacuated.

Luckily the source of the smell was located before the fire brigade was called.

After hearing about what had happened Ms Sin said she has decided not to sell durian anymore.

But that won't stop her from enjoying the tropical fruit. "Personally, I love it," she said.

Mindfulness at The Hub

The silly season is fast approaching and as it gets closer life gets busier.

As part of its fifth birthday celebrations, The Hub is running free Lunchbox presentations on the second Thursday of each month until December. This month's session focuses on "mindfulness" techniques.

Attendees will learn techniques such as yoga stretching, simple breathing and meditation.

Cost: Free

When: Thursday, November 8 at 12.30 pm

Where: The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade

For more information contact The Hub on 8622 4822.

The Roger show rolls on

The Docklands Community Association leadership was returned unopposed at its annual general meeting on October 29.

Roger Gardner remains president and Jessie Xin Zu is again treasurer. They are joined by Barbara Francis as vice-president and David Wolfram as secretary. Dominic Yap is a new committee member.

Eleven Docklands residents attended the AGM at the Hub and heard from City of Melbourne officers about how statutory planning works in Docklands.

Mr Gardner is keen to hear from others willing to serve on the DCA committee. He can be contacted on 0412 097 706.



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New building for stadium precinct

A new office building is set to join the skyline of Docklands' stadium precinct.

In its first joint venture, Charter Hall and Flagship Property Holdings are set to build a 12-storey office building at 685 LaTrobe St.

The building will be situated on the last remaining office development site in the stadium precinct.

The 32,000sqm building will feature 137 car spaces, a dedicated space for 250 bicycles along with change facilities and 1100sqm of retail space.

The building has also been designed to meet 5 Star Green Star and 5 Star NABERS energy ratings.

"685 LaTrobe St reflects the very best of commercial design that creates flexible work environments with great amenity for the people that will work there," said Steve Wise, Director of Flagship Property Holdings.

It is expected that the building will draw 3100 workers to Docklands.

"As the last office development to be built in the Stadium Precinct, it offers the best northern light, the best transport access and it's close to everything," said Chris Chapple, Head of Development Services at Charter Hall.

Construction of the building will start mid-next year and is expected to take two years.



Artists' impression of 685 LaTrobe St, Docklands.



Martin Campbell and his award-winning artwork.

Art prize success

Sydney-based artist Martin Campbell took out the ANL Maritime Art Prize at the Mission to Seafarers in Docklands last month.

Martin was announced the winner of the \$15,000 prize for his painting, *The Business End II*, at the opening of the exhibition on October 4.

The ANL Maritime Art Prize and Exhibition has been held at the Mission to Seafarers for the past 10 years and raises money towards the provision of welfare services for seafarers.

This is the second year Martin has entered an artwork in the competition and he was surprised and elated when he learned that he had won Australia's leading maritime art award.

"When I found out I had won, it was the best news I'd ever had," Martin said.

Martin has been painting for 15 years and has worked as a professional artist for the past six years.

Initially a landscape artist, Martin was introduced to maritime art about six years ago when working as an artist-in-residence

at the Sydney Heritage Fleet.

Martin's prize-winning artwork is of the orange icebreaking ship Aurora Australis, which Martin said was one of his favourite ships to paint.

The painting focuses directly on the front of the ship, which breaks the ice.

Martin said the judging panel had commented that the painting responded to the exhibition theme of "the relationship between humanity and the sea" because the ship was representative of man's way of trying to tame the elements.

The ANL Maritime Art Prize and Exhibition has raised over \$180,000 towards seafarers' welfare services.

"Many people have shared their time and expertise to shape and grow the exhibition since 2002 and therefore have contributed to the exhibition we enjoy in 2012," Mission to Seafarers CEO Andrea Fleming said.

YARRA'S
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BOLTE PRECINCT

Mirvac is proud to announce the Bolte Precinct – the final stage in the transformation of Yarra's Edge from industrial Docklands to a diverse and prosperous urban waterfront community.

Mirvac, Places Victoria and the City of Melbourne have been working on a Development Plan for the Bolte Precinct to ensure that future development provides an optimal outcome for the Yarra's Edge, Docklands and wider Melbourne communities.

For further information please visit www.yarrasedge.com/bolte

COMMUNITY INFORMATION EVENT

6-8pm, Tuesday 13 November, at the Array Display Suite, Point Park Crescent (off Lorimer St), Docklands

Come along for an exchange of information and ideas to ensure the final Development Plan reflects the aspirations of your community. Please RSVP to yebos@mirvac.com by Tuesday Nov 6.



Christmas comes early to Docklands

Docklands residents and workers can get into the Christmas spirit early this year at the inaugural Christmas Twilight Markets beginning on November 30.

The series of four markets will see a variety of unique stallholders set up on the waterfront on Harbour Esplanade.

Visit after work or bring along the family to meet Santa, listen to carollers, and enjoy gourmet treats.

Stalls will include tarot card reading, jewellery, handmade crafts, and regional produce such as olive products and salami.

The Christmas Twilight Markets will be held from 4pm until 9pm on Fridays November 30, December 7, December 14 and December 21.

Harbour Centre fete is cause to celebrate

The Harbour Family and Children’s Centre in Docklands celebrated and raised funds last month with a community fete on October 14.

The event raised money for the Parent Committee to put towards building music resources for the children’s program.

Plenty of families attended the fete, which included a barbeque and an animal farm.

Children’s program manager, Michelle Gujer, said the day was an overwhelming success.

“Thank you to all the members of the Parent

Committee and individual families who collaborated with staff to bring the stalls to life and sought donations from friends and family,” Ms Gujer said.

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

Notice to Docklands residents and business owners

November 2012


Due to Regional Rail Link track work, buses will replace V/Line trains on the Ballarat, Bendigo and Geelong lines during selected weekends in November.

Rail replacement buses will need to access Southern Cross Station during the weekend, resulting in buses parking at a holding yard in close proximity to the southern end of Docklands Drive.

Little disruption to traffic flow is anticipated as bus trips will be spread across the day and typically involve one bus leaving at a time.

Regional Rail Link and V/Line are working closely with the bus companies to minimise inconvenience to residents and business owners of Docklands during these weekends.

For more information call **1800 107 925** or go to **regionalraillink.vic.gov.au**





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Real estate agent runs

Former Docklands real estate agent Ali Abbas has fled the country in the wake of a Consumer Affairs investigation into nearly \$100,000 worth of trust fund irregularities.

Mr Abbas failed to appear at a Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) hearing on October 26.

The hearing followed an investigation into Mr Abbas and his agency, Worldwide Scope Pty Ltd, which operated as a Century 21 franchise in Docklands for two years.

It has been alleged that Mr Abbas received bonds in cash from multiple tenants and did not lodge the money with the Residential Tenancies Bond Authority.

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

At the hearing, Consumer Affairs lawyer Kathryn Bannon said immigration records showed Mr Abbas had left the country in January. Ms Bannon said the records showed Mr Abbas had indicated on his exit card that he would be returning to Australia but had not provided a return date.

Due to Mr Abbas's absence the hearing was adjourned until December 7.



Tegan Oakley and Simon Rees enjoy the carnival.

Plenty of fun at Girls' Night In

Staff from Crowne Plaza in Docklands raised over \$9000 for the Cancer Council last month.

The staff held a carnival-themed Girls' Night In, which was attended by 150 guests.

The event featured a photo booth, a tarot card reader, circus acts, a masseuse, manicures, carnival food and a charity auction.

Tegan Oakley and Simon Rees, who were on the organising committee, said the event was a great way to raise money for a cause that was close to many people's hearts.

"It's such a great cause and one that has affected so many people," Ms Oakley said.

Crowne Plaza staff have been running Girls' Night In events for the past five years and last year raised \$8000.

"Each year it gets bigger and better," Ms Oakley said.

Dine at NewQuay. Win an iPad 3.*

Simply dine at any NewQuay restaurant between Saturday 13 October and Saturday 1 December 2012, take a photo of the receipt and email it, along with your name and contact number, to **newquayprecinctmanagement@ap.jll.com** for your chance to win an iPad 3.

* For full terms and conditions visit www.newquay.com.au. Winners drawn: Monday 3 December 2012.



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GREETINGS FROM THE DOCKLANDS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



Greetings everybody

The DCA has been awarded a \$3000 community service grant from the council as part of its grants program. It is for conducting community activities and consolidation. We wish to thank the council for the grant.

Having said that, there has been a general outcry from Docklands against council's decision behind closed doors to cancel the 9.30pm family fireworks display on New Year's Eve. They have said it is due to police advice regarding crowd management issues. There have been no previous reports to that effect and we are sceptical of the reason.

This event is important for families and for restaurants and other businesses in Docklands. Council tried a similar tactic in 2009 but reinstated the event following our protests. We will protest again.

The DCA annual general meeting is being held on Monday, October 29. The guest speaker will be Rob Moore, council's manager of urban design. I will report on the outcome next month.

On October 4, I met with some leading people involved with groups in Melbourne who are highly critical of the State Government's planning of both high-rise and suburban low-rise development, including relaxing of the laws and the Minister's autocratic approach. Strategies for objection are being developed. This is relevant to Docklands in terms of future development and protection of amenity.

An objection by owners corporation (OC) chairs will be lodged with the Minister, Places Victoria (PV) and council to MAB Corporation's quiet approach to PV in an attempt to change the NewQuay Master Plan to construct more residential towers instead of commercial buildings behind existing

residential towers. This proposed change is objectionable on a number of grounds.

Myself representing the DCA along with Albert Morcos on October 11 attended the meeting of the Docklands Steering Group comprising senior executives of council and Places Victoria at which we reported on the first forum meeting and were given the opportunity to hear reports on the status of projects.

The status reports contained nothing we didn't already know. These have so far been tell-sessions where we're told what's going to happen; whereas we request the opportunity to have input before decisions are made. I did say that we oppose the placing of old cargo sheds on the revamped Esplanade and was promptly told that was locked in.

We have tentatively set the date of the DCA Christmas Party for Wednesday, December 12. Invitations advising venue and other details will be sent out in the near future.

I have been asked by the community garden co-ordinator to include the following report in this column for the benefit of readers:

"All of that area around the park and Myer, leading into the garden area was on a contaminated site. It was the site of the old gas works. The ground has been decontaminated to world's best practice standards. But, in addition, all the garden beds are raised beds and filled with new soil from off site. They have a moisture barrier membrane beneath plus a 50 cm scoria layer to prevent water rising from beneath. They are completely safe for food production, but users are advised not to plant edible foods in the ground around the garden (although that's probably safe too)".

This report was provided in response to an enquiry from a university researcher.

Regards to all,
Roger Gardner, President DCA

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YMCA Docklands Victoria Point
Level 4, 100 Harbour Esplanade, Docklands
T: 8615 9622
E: docklands@ymca.org.au





Recently I bought a shirt.

Like most of my shirts it's checked. However, this one is a little special.

I got up to preach one Sunday and noticed these words embroidered on the placket: "Enough excuses. Get the job done!"

These words remind me of a time when my wife and I were at a local beach in Melbourne. We were enjoying our lunch when we noticed two guys in the distance standing near the water's edge. One of them had just thrown a crutch in the water.

He'd thrown the crutch because there was an elderly lady who had lost her footing in water about 10 metres from the shore. She couldn't get up and was on the verge of drowning. His "solution" was to pick up her crutch and launch it in. Creative? Yes. Helpful? No.

When I got to the women she could barely talk. She was scared and humiliated. As I walked her back to the beach, passed these two guys, one of them had the nerve to say: "Hey mate, I would have gone in but I didn't want to get my pants wet!"

Sadly, that is something of a picture that describes far too many people today. No courage. No commitment. Just excuses. I think Martin Luther King had it spot on when he said: "History will have to record that the greatest tragedy of this period of social transition was not the strident clamour of the bad people, but the appalling silence of the good people."

Melbourne is the most liveable city in the world. And yet our need is great. Violence against women is growing at four times the growth of our population. We are intoxicated with sex, living in a city with twice as many brothels as McDonald's restaurants.

In Australia we house 20 per cent of the world's pokie machines. 115,000 Australians are classified as "problem gamblers", amassing a social cost of \$4.7 billion per year. There is upwards of 100,000 people who live on the streets. What do we do with that? How are we to respond?

We make excuses. We deny the need. "It can't be that bad. I'm sure they'll be ok." We abdicate responsibility. "This is a mess, but this is not mine, surely someone else will deal with it."

We cast blame. "This is their fault. They should fix it." We feel hopeless. "I know this is not right, but it's way too big for me." We have to find a different way.

Recently, our church journeyed through the book of Nehemiah, and I was struck by how the prophet responded to the needs of his city.

Nehemiah was an ordinary man who heard that his hometown, the city of Jerusalem, was in ruins: the walls were down, the gates were burned and the people walked in shame. This was not new news; it had been that way for 141 years. In other words, all this generation knew was loss.

If anyone had a "right" to make excuses it was Nehemiah. Yet he chose a different path. He wept. He prayed. He moved in faith.

Leaving his comfortable job in Persia he stepped out in God's strength. He was not entirely sure how it was going to go, he didn't know the extent of the adversity to come, but he stepped out. Why? Because he'd encountered a God who loves this world and can do immeasurably more than we ever think or imagine.

Nehemiah is a foreshadowing of the perfect leader Jesus Christ, who weeps over his people [Luke 19:41], prays on behalf of his people [John 17] and moves into action for his people [John 1]. Jesus saw us in need and at great cost to himself entered the stage of human history to live a life we couldn't live (a life without sin) and die the death we should have died (the death for sin). Jesus did not make excuses. He showed courage, conviction and compassion. Jesus is the ultimate and true sacrificial servant who loved his own to the end [John 13:1].

Jesus is a leader to trust and our example to follow. This is our time. This is our moment. This is our city. Enough excuses. God is with us. Let's get the job done.

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MELBOURNE CITY COUNCIL

DECLARATION OF ELECTION RESULTS

At the election held on Saturday, 27 October 2012, the following Leadership Team was elected:

DOYLE, Robert	(Lord Mayor)
RILEY, Susan	(Deputy Lord Mayor)

At the election held on Saturday, 27 October 2012, the following councillors were elected:

LOUEY, Kevin	(First elected)
OKE, Cathy	(Second elected)
ONG, Ken	(Third elected)
WOOD, Arron	(Fourth elected)
PINDER-MORTIMER, Beverley	(Fifth elected)
FOSTER, Richard	(Sixth elected)
WATTS, Jackie	(Seventh elected)
MAYNE, Stephen	(Eighth elected)
LEPPERT, Rohan	(Ninth elected)

Bill Lang
Returning Officer
30 October 2012

The Victorian Electoral Commission conducted these elections on behalf of Melbourne City Council.

CITY OF MELBOURNE

Victorian Electoral Commission



DOCKLANDS FASHION



Fashion on the streets of Docklands

Jayne Duff, 22

LOCATION?

Waterfront City Piazza

WEARS?

Bardot dress, vintage denim jacket, Novo shoes and Vogue sunnies.

DESCRIBE YOUR OUTFIT?

Casual, spring, comfy.

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO DOCKLANDS?

A modelling job.

WHERE ARE YOU FROM?

Croydon

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE OF CLOTHING?

I love maxi dresses – I have about 20, and shoes.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT?

Everything falling together effortlessly.

Kristina Haritos, 23

LOCATION?

Harbourtown

WEARS?

Mossman pants, Zara top and jacket, Prada bag.

DESCRIBE YOUR OUTFIT?

Ready for work.

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO DOCKLANDS?

Work at Channel 7

WHERE ARE YOU FROM?

Croydon

DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE?

A little bit edgy.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT?

Accessories

Adrienn Botha, 34

LOCATION?

Etihad Stadium

WEARS?

Second-hand jacket purchased in Melbourne, everything else from Hungary.

DESCRIBE YOUR OUTFIT?

Too difficult for me in English!

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO DOCKLANDS?

Study

WHERE ARE YOU FROM?

Hungary

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE OF CLOTHING?

Stradivarius, other European designers.



Flat-out

We've all been there. We've all had a "shoe slip up".

Thankfully, most of the time it's not recorded or broadcast on the news.

Following her spectacular Indian fall, Julia Gillard has quite possibly fallen over more times than any other head of state. Apart from facing criticism on her hair, appearance and policies, having to deal with embarrassing tumbles is tough.

We all struggle. You just have to look around in race season to see the potential failing of a grass-plus-high heels combination.

Perhaps it's time ladies to put functionality before fashion. Regain stability to keep your feet firmly on the ground and enjoy your champagne (or political engagement) without losing face, or your footing.

This season, the aptly-titled "flatforms" are a hit for tackling uneven ground, cobblestone streets or any soft-ground scenario.

The shoes have a raised sole, the same height front and back – giving you the height of a high heel, without the torturous impact on your feet. Usually between 3-5 inches, these gems make you taller while keeping your feet level so you aren't forced to balance or hobble around at an awkward angle.

However, the jury is still out on their appearance. They lack the delicateness of the stiletto and the power-woman attitude of a court shoe. But in term of practicality, they're not as easy to flit about as flats – no high heel will ever be. Yet they offer a relatively comfy alternative to strapping yourself into some five-inch killer stilettos.

Different from both the wedge and the platform, the flatform is the shoe of 2012 – available in a brogue, sandal or mule.

Julia, take note.

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LET US
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HOW



Letters to
the Editor



Send your letters to
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Publicise events

Since I moved to the Docklands some eight weeks ago, I am looking forward to the “priceless” *Dockland News* every month in anticipation.

I think it is a fabulous paper, providing plenty of interesting and informative articles, edited with zest and thought-provoking editorials.

I concur with the ideas of “anonymous” (September, 2012) on how the publication can even have a stronger impact on the local people which may contribute to the emergence of a stronger-knit network amongst Docklanders and may enforce more meetings among the local community.

If I may add one more idea, I would like to suggest to perhaps add a section on events or festivals coming up that go beyond the regular monthly calendar that would enable us to plan ahead.

Such a section may include single or multi-venue events in the future, such as the comedy week in October 2012 and others, including the “Festival of Giving” in March 2013, planned to bring together businesses and residents around Victoria Harbour. More events may be planned.

Having said this, I would like to congratulate the staff on such a fine publication, to which I personally would be interested to contribute myself from time to time.

Best wishes.
Anja Latacz

Disgusted with
councillors

I have lived at the Docklands for nearly five years now and was disgusted that councillors can stoop to holding secret meetings on major events like the New Year’s Eve Fireworks that bring in not only tourism but a general crowd to the area which promotes it more and (which) brings in money for the retailers and restaurants.

This is the only time of the year it generates any popularity in the area. I, as a resident, look forward to my family and friends coming here, eating, drinking and enjoying the fireworks on show and I’m sure other residents would feel the same. And proposing to make this year’s New Year’s Eve celebrations here better than ever, my question is how, when there’s no fireworks?

My prediction is, there will be a drop in people coming here for New Year’s Eve when they can go anywhere in the heart of the city and watch them, with more people there and more commuters. How does that justify it?

They seem to all say that they want to promote more for the Docklands area but seem not to want to put either the effort of marketing or the money into it, or both. How can they make common decisions like that, because if it’s to do with safety, you don’t have to go far into the city itself to see there’s a general problem with revellers every New Year’s Eve on the streets. Why don’t they stop those fireworks for New Year’s Eve?

Dot

Family fireworks
is needed

We run a successful sailing charter business in Docklands.

Every second year we are threatened with family fireworks closure.

This is our busiest night of the year on the boat, as a small operator of 30 guests.

We do two trips – one for families with their children and a second for adults.

In 2009 we had to cancel the first trip because City of Melbourne said they were cancelling the early fireworks. Sometime later they changed their minds and it went ahead.

We had cancelled our cruise and so lost money.

This year we are booked out again for the family sail, so where do we go from here?

Surely the need to bring families into this normally quiet area of the city must outweigh the cost of patrolling the city precinct that is kilometres away .

The family fireworks need to be a permanent event.

Darren and Jenni Hart
Adventure Sails

MADE IN HEAVEN WITH ANGELINA MAY

How compatible are you
and your partner?

Check the astrological charts by emailing yours and your partner’s birth date and time to heaven@docklandsnews.com.au



STEPHANIE	JULIAN
October 29, 1992	January 3, 1993
Sun in Scorpio	Sun in Capricorn
Venus in Taurus	North Node in Sagittarius
North Node in Sagittarius	

Stephanie

You are visionary and like a great deal of both physical and mental stimulation. Exploring life and your partner are exhilarating for you. Whilst you are not clingy in love you are greatly attracted to deep and meaningful relationships.

For you, a relationship can be loose and free, yet weirdly bonding, with a type of soul-mate connection. In Julian you have found a partner who is deep, sincere and giving yet who also values his independence as much as you do. Together, you both have the need to travel, learn, grow and explore. A strong relationship is ensured when you come together to share your experiences and lessons.

Julian

For you a relationship needs to be pampering, comforting and sensual on a deep level. Superficial one-night stands are not your deal. You prefer to wait and have no-one than to have the wrong kind of someone as you are content on your own and busy being helpful and kind to others. Your career and future success are paramount for you, so if the right someone comes along whilst you pursue your own interests then that is a bonus. For the one who loves you and fulfills your exacting needs, she will be well provided for and looked after. You are kind, thoughtful and extremely generous when you have found the right person. Love to you has to feel like family, comforting, supportive, yet not demanding.

Combined

Stephanie, you have a very positive and powerful effect on Julian’s psychological well being. You naturally make him feel loved, accepted, safe and relaxed. The 12th house is the house of big picture planning. You naturally influence this part of him. Julian, on the other hand, influences you in the opposite way (the sixth house). This means that Julian will naturally influence you to stop dreaming and get to work. He will help you organise your life and your days to be very productive and to achieve the practical goals you set yourself.

Outcome of relationship:

Together, you both share a strong common attraction to your shared social or public image. Even though your ideas may differ at times, you are both intuitively and emotionally in tune. The purpose of your coming together is purely and simply to find a spiritual place in this world without prejudice and strife. You will learn to be non-judgmental and to appreciate many different cultures and beliefs. By achieving the above you will then have the ability to communicate this effectively to others. This learning you both do together can have an enormous impact on the world around you.

Featured terminology

North Node in Sagittarius = Life Purpose – to have an open accepting attitude and to be able to bring different values, views and cultures to a unified one.

South Node in Gemini = natural patterns of using your communication to get what you want rather than what is right.



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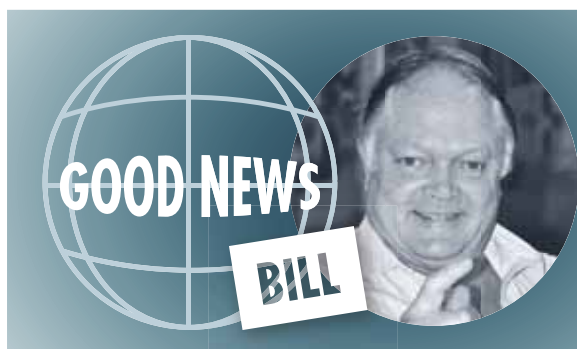


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Summer is on its way, and Docklands will be at its beautiful best! Take time out to explore all that is on offer.

The Docklands Arts Laughs and Blues arrived in Docklands at the beginning of October. A number of NewQuay and Harbour Town venues hosted some great shows that were well attended.

At Berth restaurant, we were entertained by Red Chair Burlesque in the upstairs venue, as they danced their way through routines as some of our favourite pop culture characters. The show was introduced by the hilarious and entertaining Kiska from Russia. Whilst over on the promenade at Medici Restaurant, Stephen Cummings played to a packed house, which had nothing to do with

the Melbourne Victory versus Melbourne Heart game at Etihad stadium. Diners at Oscars Table were treated to a night of comedy with the hugely entertaining Simon Palomaris and Brad Oakes.

On Sunday, October 7 NewQuay and Harbour Town rocked to the very best of blues music. The sun shone, making it a great day for a festival in Docklands. The crowd was thoroughly entertained by a great line up of blues bands including Lloyd Spiegel, Dream Boogie, Stevie Paige and Dan Dinnen. The Comedy Gala Night at the Wonderland Spiegeltent was a sell-out. The late addition of the highly entertaining Jimeoin supported by very funny Jeff Green and the incredible Bendy Man made for one of the best nights of comedy I have seen in a while.

Make sure you keep Docklands Arts Laughs and Blues in mind for next year, because this will become an annual event in Docklands,

Melbourne's newest playground!

I hope everyone has noticed that the wheel is now whole! It has been a slow process fixing this, because it had to be redesigned and rebuilt, and they want to get it right. It looks like it is all starting to come together.

Cadel Evans and Matt Goss will be back in Docklands for the annual Suit Up and Ride event to raise money for Orygen Youth Health on Friday, November 23 down at the Waterfront City Piazza. Mark Seymour will be performing on the Main Stage after the big race. Make sure you come along and be prepared to stay a while and enjoy the after-party. For those wanting a refreshing drink at the end of a long hard day will find what they seek at the James Squire Hotel only a few metres away. This event is all for a good cause, and great for Docklands. So come along and show your support.

From inside the Docklands Chamber of

Commerce "tent", I am excited to play a part in the new executive team leading the chamber into 2013. We are planning a series of information and networking events over the next 12 months. I encourage all businesses, large and small, to join the chamber and attend these meetings. We will be highlighting local issues within the business community and invite appropriate guests to look at workable solutions. This is your chance to be involved, so support the chamber supporting you. The first meeting will be at the Woolshed Pub from 5:30pm on 12 November. Entry is free to members and anyone who signs up on the night. Membership fees are very reasonable. Feel free to visit the chamber website and download minutes of our meetings as they become available.

Have a great November folks and remember to "like" the 'Docklands is Beautiful' Facebook page.



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

It's getting to be "that time of year".

That time of year when, generally, excitement rises, when pulses quicken, when invitations are sent (and it would seem, as you get older, less frequently received) and plans are made.

Taxis are considered, a nominated driver is appointed – and then dismissed as a ridiculous notion – and the sad realisation hits that all hire cars are well and truly booked out.

Still, ignoring the inner voice that tells you

you'll probably end up walking further in the next few weeks than you have all year, you decide this year is the year to top all previous records of high heel-height. After all, they make your legs look great!

That's right, it's the start of the Silly Season. Most years, this brings a bucket-load of hope for singles – what an endless list of fabulous events and excuses to start drinking champagne before lunch. Coupled with the crippling high heels, you just couldn't be in a better position to meet someone. Well meet them you might, but with a bottle of champagne under your belt before 11, it's always a bit tricky making the right impression – and the truth be told, generally

by that stage, you're not fussed! At least this year, you've got your "flats" in your handbag so you don't have to do the walk home in stilettos – again. See, you are learning!

In fact, the Silly Season brings hope for all – for most of my gorgeously married friends, it generally means they hope their husband never sees the credit card bill for the ridiculously high heels (and the handbag, sunglasses and hat that match) they purchased for this season (to make their husbands look good, you understand). I generally agree with them on this philosophy, as it is usually these ones that got in early and booked the hire car – and I don't fancy walking home in my heels (or flats!) again!

For the men, it's hope that this year's tips will actually come off, and they'll back a winner. And hope they can pass it off as being a result of their own scrupulous studying of the form guide. I have found they also kind of hope you're not paying attention to the fact they are wearing last year's suit, or last season's shirt, and just let them be to get on with the betting and the fun without the fuss. They

even seem relatively happy to walk home, particularly if it happens to be past a food stop on the way back. (Great news, that's more room in the hire car!)

And the kids. Well, the kids actually just start to hope that Santa is noticing how good they were on those one or two days this year and hoping he didn't notice all the times they shoved the clothes under their bed rather than clean up properly ... For them it is the countdown for the biggest day, the highlight of the Silly Season – Christmas.

Whatever you are hoping for as the year rushes headlong into the craziness of celebrations and parties, I hope you find it. I hope your hat sits well. I hope you bet successfully, hail taxis safely and I hope you find joy. This is a time of year to celebrate – because no matter what you're hoping for, we already have so much.

Have a fabulous racing season ladies and gentlemen! And careful of those high heels in the grass! Lots of love.

Abby



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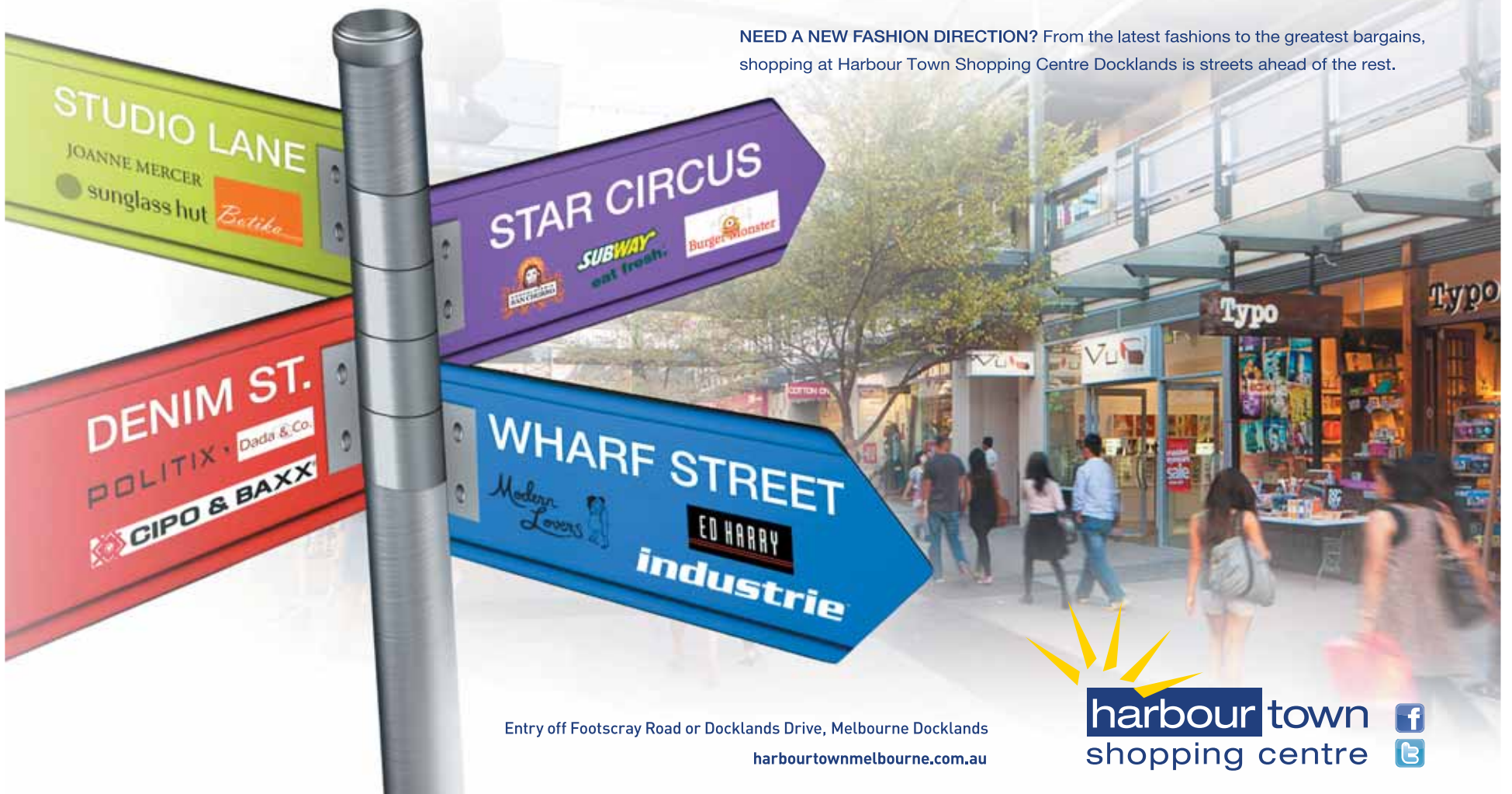
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WORDPLAY

FROM DOCKLANDS WRITERS

FEATURING THE TALENTS OF THE DOCKLANDS' WRITERS GROUP

Twists and Turns

By Docklands Writers
(Marjatta Rogers, Sue Wells, Nadita Chakraborty & Jane Hutchinson)

With the taxi speeding towards Tullamarine Airport, Kate uses the time to reflect. She thought to herself, why did I ever marry Tom, that loser? But, I must admit it was a dangerous game taking him away from Jenny. Tom and Jenny were engaged when she entered the scene, hips waving hips and an ample bust to lure any man. Kate smiles at the memory.

Anyway it’s over now. Soon they all will be out of my life. Tom, Simon, the lot of them. I only need to check in my luggage and go through to the bar at international and wait for my plane.

Suddenly Kate’s face drops.

“Oh driver, driver please turn back, I’ve forgotten my passport.”

Back in Docklands Tom stares at the shop window without seeing anything.

That scheming, lying and deceitful Kate. And Simon, Simon King – the sleek, dressed-to-impress upstart reeking like a perfume shop and thinking he is God’s gift. How could I have been so foolish yet again.

Tom lost in his thoughts, all the anger and rage he felt was running through his veins.

Focussing on an image, Tom sees a reflection in the shop window and he is filled with

longing. His bitterness melts away for a moment, is that her?

“Hello Tom!”

Tom turns around to the voice and suddenly faces Jenny.

The jolt shocks Tom to his core “Arh arh Jen – oh my goodness, what, what um what um brings you to this part of town?”

“Oh wow Jen, this is unbelievable wow, what a surprise,” Tom could hardly contain his words.

“I know, I know. How are you Tom? You look pretty shaken I know it’s been a while, but ...”

“I’ve just had one amazing week, well months actually. It’s really great to see you. Have you got time for a coffee?”

They settle into the café.

“So Tom how’s Kate? How’s life been treating you?”

Tom feeling safe and comfortable for the first time in months. He starts telling Jenny all about his sorry-sad story – Kate running off with someone else, the cursed money and just what a fool he has been.

Jenny has a chuckle: “Cursed money, oh Tom!”

“Ah yes the curse? How did you know about

Docklands Writers brings you a serial story, each month’s instalment written by a different writer from the group. You will be able to access the ongoing story at www.docklandsnews.com.au/columns/list/category/word-play/ We trust you enjoy it. Feedback is always welcome as are membership enquiries to jane.x.hutchinson@gmail.com

that though?” Tom asks, alarmed.

“Yes, they all talked about a curse, but your Grandmother told me that the curse was not real, your grandad just said so to make sure no one dared touch the money.”

“How about the Maltese Cross with the Egyptian ...”

Jenny laughs: “Oh Tom, that was just a concoction by your grandfather and his brothers.”

Tom’s face turns bright red while his outrage grows. He feels very foolish.

“Forget it, the money’s gone anyway,” Jenny states.

They continue the conversation both feeling old affections stirring.

As the taxi pulls into the front of the tower, Kate hurries to the apartment. She is glad that Tom is not there and grabs her passport in one swift move.

As she turns on her heels and is about to leave the sound of the key turning in the lock sends Kate’s heart rate soaring. Moving quickly, she drops her luggage and throws her handbag on the table, moving as far away from it as she can.

“Oh, Tom, I’m so glad you are here. That money is cursed. I haven’t had a minute’s

peace since I left and last night I hardly slept. I had awful nightmares and now I’m scared.”

Tom was frozen. There are tears in her voice.

“Poor Kate, you are shaking. Sit down and I’ll make you a strong cup of coffee.”

She sits on the sofa in the lounge and he brings the coffee and a blanket. He eases down next to her, draping the warm blanket around her. Just like the faithful little puppy Kate expects, he watches as she drinks the coffee.

The coffee was so strong that Kate can barely swallow it. Tom sits with her patiently and encourages her to keep drinking.

Laughing inside. That fool, fussing over me like a mother hen, despite all I have done to him.

Feeling drowsy, Kate turns to Tom.

“I’m really quite tired; I think I’d better lay down for a bit.”

Tom waits for a while, turns on the TV. During an ad break he speaks to Kate.

“Kate, can you hear me?”

But Kate is fast asleep. The two sleeping pills that Tom has dropped into her coffee have done their work. Tom calls Jenny

“I have the money. Pack your bags, we are going.”



with Peter O’Rourke
from Active Melbourne City Sports

Burn calories burn!

As humans we store fat as a survival mechanism to protect us against the possibility of food shortages as well as some fat is essential for our general health.

The problem is that people are now eating more exercising less, and thus storing excess fat.

Common today with dieting is the monitoring the amount of energy consumed. Commonly referred to on food nutrition labels, a calorie is a unit of energy frequently used. When you eat food, you are consuming the energy that is stored within the protein, carbohydrate and fat molecules of that food.

When we exercise, our bodies utilise stored energy, thus reducing fat deposited. Here are some common forms of exercise and the calories each burn for a 70kg female for 30 minutes of moderate exercise. Aerobics (264), boxing (186), cycling (248), touch football (279.5), lawn bowls (93), netball (248), pilates (108), running (388), soccer (217), swimming laps (217), walking (105), weight lifting (186), yoga (77), zumba (201).

By utilising your lunchtime of approximately 30 minutes to get active and exercise you are burning far more calories than by being sedentary at your desk. This results in reduced fat stores, along with the other numerous health benefits of exercise.

Corporate Challenge and Corporate Cup

Well folks it’s that time of year again.

It’s time to decide if you want to participate in Melbourne’s premier lunchtime sports competition, the Corporate Challenge. The Corporate Challenge provides its participants a selection of fantastic sports in very convenient CBD locations. Team-based activities are a great way for corporate workers to interact outside the normal office environment and some examples of the benefits our participants experience include:

- Incorporating fun and fitness into your week;
- Improved concentration and stress minimisation; and
- Building a more cohesive working environment.

The current repertoire of sports includes netball, soccer, basketball, lawn bowls and running. With a strong culture of inclusivity and sportsmanship, the Corporate Challenge has something for everyone. For more information on this event, please visit the AMCS website, www.melbournecitysports.ymca.org.au or call our offices **9604 8600**.

Ride2Work Community Breakfast Docklands

Active Melbourne City Sports hosted the fourth annual Docklands Ride to Work Day Community Breakfast.

This event was a huge success with over 450 patrons visiting the numerous stalls provided throughout the morning.

For the first time in years the weather was in our favour and the rain held off, with the morning sunshine increasing energy levels of all participants during their early morning ride to work.



This year’s event featured a record number of 18 different companies which participated in this annual event. Each stall provided bike riders with a range of giveaways including: breakfast snacks, bike repairs/ engraving, promotions/prizes and even a morning massage.

All patrons appeared to be enjoying the free breakfast foods on offer, especially the free coffee, with the line never disappearing throughout the morning.

AMCS would like to say a big thank you to all stallholders and participants who came to support Ride to Work Day Community Breakfast Docklands. We hope to see you again next year!

DOCKLANDS COMMUNITY CALENDAR



DOCKLANDS TOASTMASTERS Every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month <i>The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade</i> Boost your public speaking and leadership skills. Contact: email docklandstoastmasters@yahoo.com.au or visit www.docklands.freetoasthost.org	DOCKLANDS WRITERS Tuesdays fortnightly 5.30-7.30pm <i>The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade</i> “Writerly” issues, workshoping, author talks and fun. Enquiries to: rose@grahammercer.com.au or at The Hub.	DOCKLANDS COMMUNITY FORUM November 28, 6pm <i>Places Victoria</i> The Docklands Community Forum will meet at Places Victoria at 6pm on November 28. All are welcome to attend.	SUIT UP AND RIDE 2012 November 23, 4pm - 6:30pm <i>Waterfront City Piazza</i> Suit Up and Ride, featuring Cadel Evans, is Melbourne’s quirkiest, corporate team cycling event. Teams of five race in a time-trial on Melbourne Bike Share bikes. www.suitupandride.com.au
MY GYM KIDS Every Tuesday, 8.45am & 9.30am <i>The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade</i> Cost: \$126 for a seven-class pass Learn, Jump & Tumble with award-winning exercise classes for babies and tots. Visit www.mygym.com/mobileaus Ph 0434 020 310.	LUNCHTIME TABLE TENNIS Wednesday and Fridays <i>The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade</i> Cost: No charge. Table tennis continues to grow in popularity. BYO lunch. For details 8622 4822 or docklandshub@melbourne.vic.gov.au	MELBOURNE SUNRISE PROBUS CLUB First Thursday of the month, 10:00am <i>Wharf Hotel, Siddeley Street</i> Probus Clubs for men and women over 50. Come along, keep your mind active, meet new friends while enjoying activities and shared interests. Contact Carol on 9600 1628 or carolbergcb@gmail.com	CHRISTMAS TWILIGHT MARKET Every Friday from November 30 till December 21, 4pm - 9pm <i>Harbour Esplanade</i> Visit after work or bring along the family to meet Santa, listen to carollers, and enjoy gourmet treats. Stalls will include tarot card reading, jewellery, handmade crafts, and regional produce.
KARATE CLASS Monday and Thursday <i>The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade</i> Run by ‘Docklands Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu’ Phone 9016 8471, email info@docklandsbjj.com.au or visit www.docklandsbjj.com.au		FINE LINE DRAWING AND BOTANICAL ART CLASSES Monday and Thursday <i>The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade</i> The University of the 3rd Age offers two classes on Mondays and Thursdays. To make an enquiry regarding the classes, please ring U3A on 9639 5209	DRAGON MASTERS DRAGONBOATING Wednesdays at 5.30pm and Saturdays at 8.30am <i>Shed 2 North Wharf Road Victoria Harbour (Melways map 2E B6)</i> Dragon Masters has something for anyone. Please contact Jeff Saunders 0417 219 888 email Jeff.saunders@digisurf.com.au or visit www.dragonmasters.com.au
DOCKLANDS WALKING TOUR Every day at 10.30am, bookings essential <i>Etihad Stadium 130 Harbour Esplanade</i> Explore Docklands on a walking tour. Be mesmerised by the artwork, history and architecture of the Docklands area. Contact 0448 270 023 or email amwt@live.com.au	DOCKLANDS BRAZILIAN JIU-JITSU <i>The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade</i> BJJ is a style popularised by media such as the UFC and is proven as an extremely effective form of martial arts. Phone 9016 8471, email info@docklandsbjj.com.au or visit www.docklandsbjj.com.au	DISCOVER SAILING Club sailing days every 2nd and 4th Sunday <i>Docklands Yacht Club, Shed No. 2 North Wharf Rd</i> Visitors welcome. For further information email docklandsyachtclub@gmail.com	
	YOGA IN THE DOCKLANDS <i>The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade</i> Cost: \$20 per class or \$165 for a ten-class pass. Hatha Yoga suitable for all ages and levels of experience. Phone Brooke McGlinchey on 0403 668 705 or muditayogamelb@gmail.com	SHOUTS AND UNDERTONES November 3 - 10 <i>Goods Shed, 710 Collins St, entrance via Village Street.</i> A free exhibition of the work of third year RMIT photography students. Exhibition open daily from 9am - 5pm	CITY ON A HILL Church Services Sunday 8.45am. 10.30am, 6pm. <i>Hoyts, Melbourne Central</i> Sunday evening 6pm <i>Arrow on Swanston (488 SwanstonSt)</i> Contact cityonahill.com.au
JEWISH MYSTICISM... A WEEKLY INSIGHT Every Thursday, 7.30pm <i>Chabad Jewish Community Centre, 198 Clark St, Port Melbourne</i> The path of life is full of hidden treasure ... do you know how to find it? Please contact Rabbi Shlomo Nathanson 0433 810 313 or rabbi@cjcc.com.au	ALMA DOEPEL SUPPORTERS MONTHLY SAUSAGE SIZZLE Third Saturday of every month 5pm - 7pm <i>Alma Doepel Restoration Site Shed 2, North Wharf Road, Victoria Harbour, Docklands.</i> Learn about our restoration project and see if you would like to get involved.	DOCKLANDS SUNDAY MARKET Every Sunday, 10am to 4pm <i>Waterfront City Docklands Drive</i> Discover treasures from the hoards of some of Melbourne’s finest antique and pre-loved specialists, including art, jewellery, retro-clothing, vintage books and car-boot sales.	MELBOURNE FLAMES DRAGON BOAT CLUB Every Sunday 8.30am for 9.00am start <i>Shed 2, North Wharf Rd, Victoria Harbour</i> We paddle and train hard and have a lot of fun doing it. Come and see what all the fuss is about for three free paddling sessions - no commitment, no questions asked. www.melbourneflames.com.au
THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS) One Sunday per month 11am-12pm <i>The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade, Docklands</i> Meet for worship and enjoy a tea or coffee afterwards. Ph: 9827 3595 or visit www.victoria.quakers.org.au	DOCKLANDS ROTARY Every Tuesday, 6.00pm <i>Watermark</i> First Tuesday of the month is fellowship hour. Regular meetings on other Tuesdays. All welcome.	MELBOURNE LIBRARY SERVICE PRESCHOOL STORYTIME Mondays at 11am <i>The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade</i> Pre-school Storytime has returned to the Hub. Come along to meet other local parents and kids. Enjoy some books, songs, and a craft activity.	MINI MAESTROS Tuesdays <i>The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade</i> Introduce your child to the magic of music with Mini Maestros. Music programs for babies and children aged 6 months to 5 years. Contact Karen Dunlop on 9503 0056 or visit minimaestros.com.au

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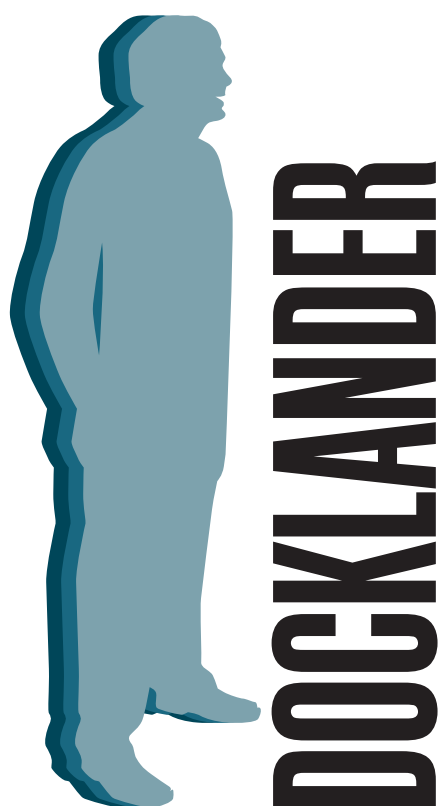
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Maria unlocks her life

When Maria Vesterinen came to Australia on a working holiday from Finland in 2009, she had no idea how much her life would change.

Maria was accepted into a fine arts degree at Monash University, and moved to Docklands in 2010 with her partner Matt.

Now in her final year of study, Maria has been given an opportunity to show her work at Louey & Lane Gallery in her first ever solo exhibition, *Unlocked*.

Maria says her exhibition, which features sculpture and photography, has been heavily influenced by her life in Australia.

"When I moved here, my world just opened up," Maria said. "It made me understand so much more about different people, how they live – values. That affected my work a lot."

Maria said life in Docklands was incredibly different from Finland.

"All the birds around – parrots, which I still haven't gotten used to – that bright flash in front of your eyes!"

Maria loves that Melbourne is so multi-cultural, and that people tend to be "happy and smiley" because the sun is out.

"When it gets sunny you just want to go out or open the balcony doors and look at the water," she said.



The music, art and great options for vegetarians make Maria feel right at home in Docklands.

"The art scene in Helsinki is really small compared to Melbourne," Maria said. "Every time you walk around the corner here there are a couple of little galleries, and it's great."

Maria counts among her artistic influences Tim Burton, Salvador Dali, and the Finnish symbolist Hugo Simberg.

Unlocked can be seen at Louey & Lane Gallery, 1136 Glenhuntly Rd, Glen Huntly from October 31.

Profile by Georgina Scambler

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DOCKLANDS SPORTS PAGE



Cyclists celebrated

By Georgina Scambler

An estimated 800 commuters were treated to breakfast, bike repairs and other goodies at the Ride to Work celebration breakfast in Docklands on October 13.

Local businesses including Costco, Pinnacle Health, Carrick Education and Active Melbourne City Sports pitched in to encourage people to ride their bikes to work.

Nadia Batscos from the YMCA said the breakfast location on Harbour Esplanade was perfect not only for those who work in Docklands, but for commuters who ride through Docklands on their way from the western suburbs.

“A lot of people have been commenting how good the ride is through Docklands, there are a lot of bike tracks and they feel safe,” she said.

“An event like this inspires people on their way to work, and they know the community is out there to support them.”

Greg Blades, who cycles to work in Docklands daily, said the Ride to Work breakfast was a fantastic way to encourage more people to get on their bikes.

Renegades eye their first title

By Robert Bremner

The Melbourne Renegades hope the second instalment of the Twenty20 Big Bash League will lead to greater success than the first, which ended so dismally after promising so much.

In 2011 the Docklands team finished in seventh place with only two wins, much to the disappointment of fans.

This year’s Docklands team has some of the best local talent and some well-known international stars.

It has so far named two international stars with hopefully more to come. The biggest signing so far is Sri Lankan legend Muttiah Muralitharan.

Muralitharan holds the record for the most wickets with 800. He retired from test cricket in 2010, fittingly finishing his career with a wicket on his final ball. The Sri Lankan will be sure to trouble opposition batsman.

Another big-name star who has joined the Renegades is West Indian all rounder Marlon Samuels. Samuels showed why he is one of the best Twenty20 players in the International Cricket Council Twenty20 World Cup by finishing third overall in total runs scored. Due to other commitments, Samuels will most likely be not joining the team for its opening match.

Australian talent within the team includes Aaron Finch who is back for another season after leading the Renegades run-scoring with 259 from his seven matches. Finch has been named as the team’s captain for the upcoming season.

The season begins on December 7 with the Renegades taking on the Melbourne Stars in the local derby at Etihad Stadium.

Date	Opponent	Time	Location
December 7	Melbourne Stars	7pm (local)	Etihad Stadium
December 14	Sydney Thunder	7pm (local)	ANZ Stadium, Sydney
December 19	Hobart Hurricanes	7pm (local)	Etihad Stadium
December 22	Brisbane Heat	7pm (local)	Etihad Stadium
December 29	Perth Scorchers	6pm (local)	WACA, Perth
January 2	Adelaide Strikers	7pm (local)	Etihad Stadium
January 6	Melbourne Stars	7pm (local)	MCG, Melbourne
January 9	Sydney Sixers	7pm (local)	SCG, Sydney



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