

INNER CITY NEWS

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Forever Free

Puzzles & Trivia P21



Science Gallery opens
Photo by Alan Weedon

Wheel, a vibrantly coloured human-sized hamster wheel, is one of more than 20 works on display at the inaugural exhibition, *MENTAL: Head Inside* at the Science Gallery Melbourne. Full story on page 8.

La Mama's first season in reborn premises

WORDS BY Carol Saffer
ARTS & CULTURE

Around 300 fans of Carlton's La Mama gathered on December 10, 2021, to witness Victoria's Minister for Creative Industries Danny Pearson, and Melbourne Lord Mayor Sally Capp officially re-open the theatre buildings, now rebuilt and rejuvenated after a shockingly destructive fire three years ago.

The War-Rak/Banksia festival – named after the banksia flower which comes back stronger than ever after a fire – of theatre, poetry, dance and music, held for three days after the official opening was a teaser of what's to come.

La Mama artistic director Liz Jones is expecting more than the launch day crowd when the first performance season launches *Midsumma at La Mama 2022* on Tuesday, February 8, with *For all who came before*, a story of

love, loss and devotion co-devised and performed by Milly Cooper and Ben Jamieson.

"We start with the Midsumma festival on February 8 and we have about 25 performances on in the next three months," Ms Jones said.

She said the space would be used almost every night during this period, with theatre performances interlaced with seasons of music, poetry reading and cabaret such as La Mama Poetica, La Mama Musica or La Mama Cinematica.

"We are incredibly busy," she said with a laugh.

Compounding Ms Jones' program scheduling is the fact that almost all the performances during the past two years were cancelled because of the COVID pandemic lockdowns.

"I guaranteed all cancelled productions they would

Continued on page 3.

Why are they locked up? Refugees plea for freedom

Refugees and asylum seekers detained indefinitely by the federal government at the Park Hotel in Carlton have shared their harrowing experiences of extreme neglect and the denial of their basic human rights during the past nine years.

WORDS BY Spencer Fowler Steen
COMMUNITY

Since Medivac laws were passed in 2019 allowing the transfer of sick asylum seekers from offshore detention to Australia, more than 30 refugees and asylum seekers have been locked up at the Park Hotel for months – some for more than a year.

Adnan – who fled Iran due to political persecution when he was just 15 – is an asylum seeker currently detained at the Park Hotel after being granted refugee status in 2014.

Now 24 years old, Adnan has spent his youth in detention, and suffers from severe post-traumatic stress syndrome (PTSD) which contributed to him trying to take his own life last year.

But it did not come as a surprise to him that after being admitted to hospital, he was moved straight back into immigration detention.

In an interview with *Inner City News*, Adnan said he had stopped seeking medical attention because it was "not helpful at all."

"To be honest personally I stopped the medical stuff because they are not helping me at all," he said.

"They are not independent; they're working with the Immigration Department. So, I stopped seeing them a long time ago. My mental health is suffering. There are no services for us here."

Arriving at the Park Hotel five months ago from another detention

centre in Melbourne, Adnan said his feelings of uncertainty and powerlessness had been made worse by the fact detainees had been fed food infected with maggots and mould.

"It's just disgusting. Windows here are blacked out. We have a small smoking area, but most of the time we are just sick in our bedrooms," he said.

"They [other refugees at Park Hotel] are also suffering and we're really getting mentally affected from this long-term detention, and we've all been recognised as genuine refugees, so it's really unfair to keep us in detention."

For Ismail, another refugee locked up at the Park Hotel since December 2020, the situation he fled from in war-torn Somalia in 2013 was better than after he was transferred to detention in Australia.

"The most important thing is our freedom, we're tired here, and we struggle, and the situation we're in now it seems like death is better than the torture they put us through," he said.

"If they poisoned us, it would be better. I hope they do something before it's too late, and it'll only be a matter of time before someone takes their life."

"Just let us go, we'll look after ourselves. We have people who have offered us their homes and we can rebuild our lives and we can contribute to the country and pay tax. Just let us go."

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Eyesore graffiti engulfs the streets of East Melbourne

WORDS BY *Kaylah-Joelle Baker*
SAFETY & SECURITY

Left with no choice but to take action herself, one East Melbourne resident is spending her time walking around her suburb, with a paint brush and pot in hand, to try and cover the graffiti quickly overtaking the streets.

Believing the rise of the issue is stemming from the absence of graffiti removal on the Eastern Freeway, the resident, who wished to remain anonymous, has found graffiti artists are now gravitating towards Hoddle St, Punt Rd and Victoria Parade, filtering in and out of the streets of East Melbourne.

“The issue with graffiti coming from the Eastern Freeway has been an ongoing issue and now it is in East Melbourne. The only way of keeping graffiti levels down is to remove it when it appears, when you leave it, it metastasises like a cancer and gets worse,” the resident said.

“The trouble we have in East Melbourne is our houses are quite old and it is very difficult to remove graffiti from some of the surfaces because it damages them.”

This is not the first time concerns have been expressed by the resident, who, despite having made complaints to the City of Melbourne, VicRoads and CitiPower since 2017, has had little to no resolution.

“The problem is just getting worse and the council keeps saying we are in a queue but they can’t tell us where in the queue we are. We have been waiting on that list for an awfully long time,” she said.

Now having to spend every week removing graffiti from her home, alongside many other residents whose homes have fallen victim, the East Melbourne resident is asking for the City of Melbourne to take responsibility.

Grffiti has been of great concern to the council in the past years with the City of Melbourne investing annually close to \$1 million on graffiti removal.



And just last year, Carlton was considered a major focus area of the \$100 million Melbourne City Recovery fund, with attention being drawn to the removal of graffiti and tagging from shopfronts, bridges and building facades.

Commenting on the positive initiative at the time, Lord Mayor Sally Capp said they were “going above and beyond to remove graffiti” situated on higher grounds.

But the graffiti blitz in Carlton has left East Melbourne residents feeling like their suburb has “fallen between the cracks”.

In a statement, the City of Melbourne said it had “received and responded to several requests for graffiti removal on private properties in the Hoddle St area in East Melbourne in the past year” and took “a strong stance against tagging and illegal graffiti”.

But according to the resident, making the situation harder to navigate and resolve for East Melbourne was the issue surrounding CitiPower and VicRoads continually pushing responsibility onto one another over the graffiti on the poles fit with both a light and a traffic signal.

And as the debate continues, the East Melbourne resident has been attending the

poles on the corner of Albert and Powlett streets by painting them herself.

She reiterated that the matter remained “unresolved” and the “debate continues” despite her best efforts to contact both CitiPower and VicRoads.

“I don’t know what [the graffiti] says about the care that VicRoads has for our city and the pride that the City of Melbourne takes in the whole precinct but I would say it shows there is a distinct lack of care and attention,” she said.

In response to the claims, a Department of Transport spokesperson said it “will continue to monitor graffiti vandalism across the arterial network – including along Punt Rd, Victoria Parade and Wellington Parade – and will prioritise removal accordingly”.

“No one likes to see graffiti on our road network, and it is a constant frustration for the community and us – it is time and money that could be better spent elsewhere across the transport network.”

The spokesperson also said maintenance crews had scrubbed more than “two-and-a-half MCGs worth of graffiti” in the past year, and the constant clean-up of the city was “costing taxpayers around \$1.5 million” ●

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▲ Left to right: Lord Mayor Sally Capp, La Mama Artistic Director Liz Jones, and Cr Jamal Hakim. Photo by: Darren Gill

La Mama's first season in reborn premises

Continued from page 1.

be given a season at La Mama so of course I am [now] programming three years of work [into one year]," she said.

The rehearsal space, box office and upstairs office in the new building and the theatre space and green room within the restored original red brick 1800s building will be pumping with a bumper season this year.

As Minister Danny Pearson said at the official opening, "Victorians can look forward to many more decades of creative risk-taking, ground-breaking theatre and exciting new talent from the La Mama family of artists and supporters."

With its reputation as the home of Australian independent theatre, shaping careers of renowned writers and actors including David Williamson, Cate Blanchett, Julia Zemiro and Uncle Jack Charles, La Mama hopes for many more years in its newly restored and constructed campus ●



▲ Locals gather to watch performers outside La Mama.

For more information:
lamama.com.au

New Carlton housing turns the focus to the over 50s

WORDS BY *Kaylah-Joelle Baker*
HOUSING



Everyone deserves a roof over their head and the security of a place to call home.



As part of the Victorian Government's Big Housing Build program, new homes are set to be delivered to Carlton, with people over the age of 50 given first priority.

The \$40 million development in Carlton North was announced on December 12 for the new year and is part of the state government's plans to help those in need and aid in supporting Victoria's recovery.

Given the severity of homelessness in the city, specialist housing and support agency, Wintringham, has started on the plans for Carlton Housing and is looking forward to seeing the space occupied this year.

Wintringham's acting CEO Michael Deschepper noted the significance of "taking care of, supporting and advocating for [their] clients who have no-one else."

"We're beyond excited that our expertise in supporting older vulnerable people has been recognised by the government," he said.

"It is particularly pleasing to see that the whole building will be specifically allocated to older people who are experiencing or vulnerable to homelessness, especially women and clients from the government's Homelessness to a Home program, as well as people on the Victorian Housing Register waitlist."

The 62-unit complex in Carlton is part of the government-funded \$5.3 billion Big Housing Build that is aiming to deliver more than 12,000 homes across Victoria.

But what makes this building significant is that at least half of the new homes will be given to women over the age of 50.

"Low superannuation balances, disrupted careers and the gender pay gap all contribute to women over 55 being the fastest growing group of people experiencing homelessness," Minister for Housing Richard Wynne said.

"This investment will break that cycle by providing the safety, security and dignity of a home."

During the past year alone, more than 10,000 women in this age category were being supported by Victorian Specialist Homelessness Services.

With 40 per cent of these women stating domestic and family violence as their reason for seeking help.

To ensure resources are in close proximity for the residents, Support workers, community health, and allied health services will be made available close-at-hand for those residents who may need them.

A 24-hour concierge and on-site security will also aim to ensure safety remains first priority, and daily necessities such as public transport, shops and health and education services will be located nearby.

Acknowledging the importance of the new housing in Carlton, Mr Wynne believes the program is needed in Victoria – a state that has continued to be devastatingly impacted by the pandemic.

"Everyone deserves a roof over their head and the security of a place to call home. But for thousands of people, safe and affordable housing is still out of reach," he said.

"We're changing that with Australia's biggest ever investment in public and community housing through our Big Housing Build and delivering new homes and thousands of jobs for Victorians at the same time." ●

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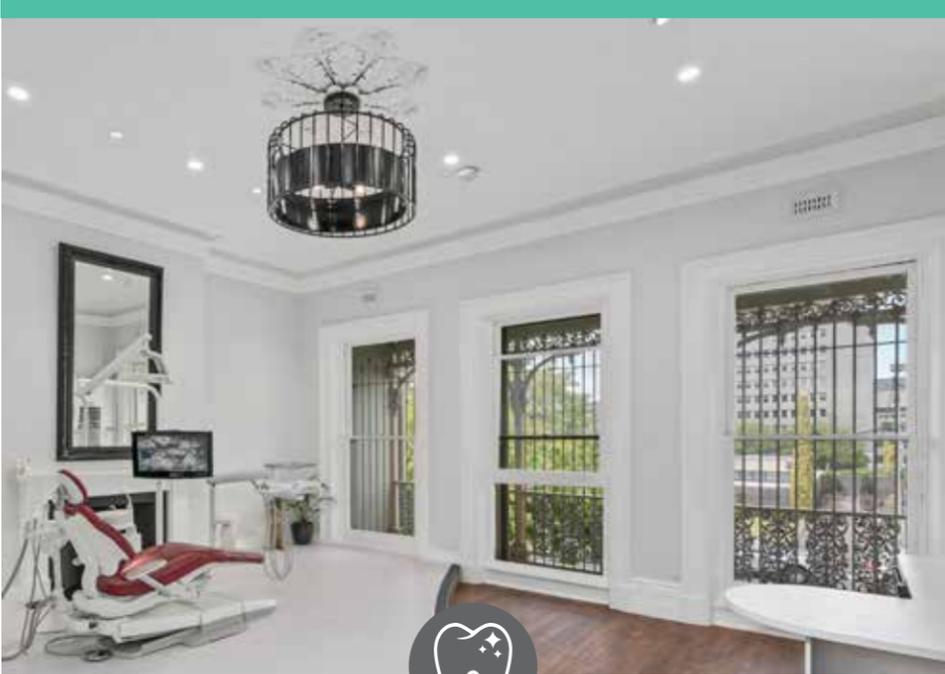
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Carlton Neighbourhood Learning Centre still under upsetting restrictions

WORDS BY *Kaylah-Joelle Baker*
COMMUNITY

Following another difficult year of closures, the Carlton Neighbourhood Learning Centre had high hopes for its community rooms to reopen come the new year, but have been left disappointed again.

The community rooms, which are located at the Carlton housing estate, have been heavily affected since March 2020, with the majority of classes moving online.

Expressing its concern to *Inner City News* in June last year, it is evident that the Neighbourhood Centre is still struggling in the pursuit of having its voice heard by the state government.

Speaking out about the importance of neighbourhood houses for the community, Carlton Neighbourhood Learning Centre community development manager Elle Morrell said it remained a “waiting game”.

“Neighbourhood houses are a great place to connect as a community. They are a place where you can drop in, get support, learn new skills and do creative courses like writing,” Ms Morrell said.

“At this time with COVID continuing, it’s more important than ever for a space like that to be open because a lot of community members who are lonely could come in for a cup of coffee and a chat.”

Despite the team and attendees feeling “optimistic” that their classes would be announced to resume in-person before mid-January this year, the only resolve has been for the community garden and compost hub to reopen.

“Our community garden and compost hub is open because they are outdoors. The volunteers have been really grateful that they have been able to come back because they get so much from being with other volunteers and learning new skills,” Ms Morrell said.

“It’s a social event they rely on.”



Despite remaining positive about the importance of the community garden, which is helping minimise landfill waste, Ms Morrell can’t ignore the struggle of many of the community members who are left with no place to meet.

“We run English courses for migrants and refugees, and for them it’s been a real challenge because their learning has had to go online,” she said.

“We had a period at the end of last year where we were face-to-face, and during that time they all expressed how much more satisfying it was to practice English with each other in-person and to have the support of being at the centre.”

While many groups and learning centres have navigated the problems that come with online learning during lockdowns, Ms Morrell has seen the major impact it has had on their Eritrean women’s group.

“During lockdown, because the Eritrean women’s group is often a lot older, using Zoom and technology isn’t possible,” she said.

“As a neighbourhood house we try to respond to the community needs as much as possible, but it’s been really hard because they can’t meet and there is nowhere for them to meet.”

Following continual advocacy for the community rooms and the housing estate, the spread of COVID remains a concern.

But according to Ms Morrell, while the

Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH) was aware of the issue, the unanswered question around a timeline for reopening remained a major concern.

“We look at all the other community areas that have opened up and we don’t know why they don’t think public housing residents can’t socially distance themselves and wear masks,” she said.

As a centre that stands by their mission to work with the community to connect people, create opportunity, promote equity and challenge disadvantage, the Carlton Neighbourhood Learning Centre is looking forward to what it can do.

Acting on what is in its control, the centre has partnered with Carlton agencies and residents to organise a “Carlton Harmony Day” event on March 26, which will include guest speakers, foods from diverse cultures, children’s activities and a skateboarding competition.

“We are hopeful to have the day at the Carlton Primary School basketball court and believe it will be a great opportunity for all of Carlton to come together and celebrate by sharing food, activities and music,” Ms Morrell said.

“It’s an important day for the elimination of racism and the celebration of different cultures.” ●

“At this time with COVID continuing, it’s more important than ever for a space like that to be open because a lot of community members who are lonely could come in for a cup of coffee and a chat.”



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DISCOVER MORE

Hopes of a summer rebound dashed as Omicron wave leaves businesses reeling

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*
BUSINESS

Hospitality owners in the inner city say they are fighting for survival as the Omicron COVID-19 wave sparks a shortage of workers and lockdown-like conditions, leaving many consumers at home.

Many restaurants, cafes, and eateries had either closed temporarily, or reduced their opening hours because of large numbers of staff, many who were close contacts of cases, isolating at home.

Fab Succi, owner of Italian restaurant Tiamo in Carlton's iconic Lygon St, said he was forced to close his venue for a week in early January because of staff shortages.

"We were really busy but unfortunately it catches you by surprise," he said. "It's very unpredictable."

"What we can't work is the never-ending changes in the definition of close contacts, rulings for what isolation so forth."

"The government is doing the best it can to work with it but because it is so fluid things change. They seem to make up things as they go along, it's very hard to work it out."

Mr Succi, whose family-run business has been in operation for 40 years, told *Inner City News*, that while the unprecedented disruption was challenging, "we need to have ways for people to still come out and enjoy themselves and be careful."

"People are just kind of scared. After lockdown, people I think are still once bitten twice shy."

George Seoud, who owns four hospitality venues including MOFO burgers in Carlton, said the precinct was largely deserted.

"If I go back to full rent, I'll have to walk away. There's no way we'll survive it," he said, adding he had no choice but to temporarily shut three of his shops while MOFO Burgers had just kept him afloat.

The state government recently extended its



▲ Fab Succi, left, owner of Tiamo in Carlton's Lygon St, hopes people can emerge safely from a self-imposed "shadow" lockdown and enjoy dining out again.

commercial tenancy relief scheme to allow small to medium businesses experiencing hardship by coronavirus to defer rent – but for businesses owners like Mr Seoud, more help was needed.

"We need backpackers, we need tourism, we need international students – they're the ones that come with the money. Unfortunately, there's no one coming in."

"It's just hanging in there to be honest. The real reason I'm staying open there is to retain my staff. We're banking on March that it kicks off again."

Il Gusto owner Ali Elbatt said he had few customers walking into his Italian restaurant on Lygon St, but he was staying optimistic saying, "After 40 years I never worry."

"I open early, I close early," he said. "Everything is hard."

In Carlton North, Fledging Espresso café owner Connor Cunliffe said his shop had resorted to take away service because of staff having succumbed to the virus.

"We literally had five staff all on the one day test positive," he said. "It can literally change within a day."



▲ Susanna Pjoh, who co-owns Mugs Alley in East Melbourne had to close after she and her family caught COVID-19.

caught the virus.

While they made a full recovery and reopened, Ms Pjoh said trade had taken a hit as the Omicron variant had kept away many workers who would otherwise be back in the office.

"We're only making about 30 to 40 per cent of what we used to make before COVID," she said, adding she took a second job working at the MCG in hospitality to make ends meet.

"I still have some savings from the government grant, but if the business keeps like this ... I don't know what I'm going to do."

Phillip Mansour, executive officer of the Carlton Inc - Carlton's Traders Association, said businesses were doing it tough – which he attributed to the federal government not providing enough rapid antigen tests.

"We wouldn't be in this predicament ... the government should have secured these rapid antigen tests a long time ago and made them freely available for everyone," he said. "That's the stranglehold at the moment because many are isolating or are undertaking a self-imposed lockdown to mitigate catching COVID-19."

However, on a positive note, he said the association was working with the City of Melbourne in shortlisting more than 180 applications for businesses wishing to activate vacant shop fronts in the precinct.

Mr Mansour said it was an "exciting opportunity" for businesses to prove themselves over a six-month trial period starting in March, which would also "breathe new life into Carlton".

Meanwhile, Lord Mayor Sally Capp is pushing for workers to return to city offices, saying "we can't let fears of this latest variant cost us another year stuck at home".

"I'm not arguing to 'let it rip' but I am convinced that we need to live with the virus in a way that protects both our mental and physical health, socialises and educates our children, and allows our economy to flourish and our city thrive," Cr Capp said.

"I'm also convinced that Melbourne is extraordinary when it is full of people sharing ideas and working together." ●



▲ Fledging Espresso café owner Connor Cunliffe is hoping for a summer rebound after the Omicron wave left him under-staffed.

"Touch wood we're all good to go at the moment".

Susanna Pjoh, who co-owns Mugs Alley in East Melbourne, said the second day they opened after the Christmas break, they had to close their venue for two weeks after her family

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TOP HONOUR FOR TRAILBLAZER



Peggy O'Neal is a prominent business leader and women's advocate

Prominent businesswoman and Richmond Football Club President Peggy O'Neal AO has been crowned 2021 Melburnian of the Year for her work advocating for women in leadership roles.

Since moving to Melbourne from West Virginia in the United States of America more than 30 years ago, Peggy has forged a successful career as a lawyer, and in 2013 became the first-ever female president of an AFL club.

Peggy is also a board member of Women's Housing Ltd - helping disadvantaged and vulnerable women gain access to safe housing.

'When I came to Melbourne in 1989, I could never have imagined that an honour like this would come my way,' Peggy said.

'My deepest thanks to the City of Melbourne for this recognition. When I consider those who have previously been named Melburnian of the Year, I am surprised and truly humbled to find myself in such company.'

'I am particularly pleased that this award cites my lifetime commitment to equality for women and girls and the significant role that sport can play in making equality happen for all communities.'

Previous Melburnian of the Year winners include leading medical researcher Professor Doug Hilton AO and radiation oncologist and tobacco-free lobbyist Dr Bronwyn King AO.

The prestigious award forms part of the annual Melbourne Awards program, which this year recognised another eight organisations for their valued work across a range of industries.

Winners included The Torch, a program supporting Aboriginal art in prison and in the community; Farmer's Daughters, a food and dining experience that champions local sourcing and sustainability; and RMHive, an app developed to respond to the unique mental health needs of health-care workers.

Visit magazine.melbourne.vic.gov.au to read more about their amazing achievements.

ETHICAL CUISINE ON THE MENU AT SHAKAHARI

While most restaurants offer vegetarian options these days, Shakahari was serving up ethical cuisine before it was hip.

After nearly 50 years feeding the community with thoughtful fare, the ground-breaking Carlton restaurant has been recognised with a Lord Mayor's Commendation.

For Beh Kim Un, owner of Shakahari, it wasn't always about flower power.

'I actually started out as an industrial chemist,' Kim said.

'But back in those days you lived for what you believed in and, when I started understanding the impact of these chemicals on our environment, I stepped away.'

In a sliding-doors moment, Kim booked a one-way ticket out of Australia and travelled around Europe, Africa and Asia for a year picking up recipes and flavours as he went.

'My family comes from a restaurant background back in Penang, Malaysia,' Kim said.

'People line up around the corner for my mother's food, so I've always had an interest in cooking.'

When he landed back in Melbourne in 1977, Kim was drawn to the bohemian spirit of Lygon Street.

'I remember it had a really beautiful creative culture,' Kim said.

'At that time Shakahari was run by a yoga collective, almost like a community centre that preached Eastern philosophy and ran mediation groups.'

'The place was decorated with hessian bags that were stapled to the walls and everything was painted in earthy colours.'

'I remember there was a poster that said: "If you destroy nature, you destroy the world".'

'I walked in and thought, this is me. I asked if there were any jobs going and they said they needed a dish washer.'

Kim put in the hard yards, washing pots, pans and dishes from 7am to midnight until he was one day asked to fill in in the kitchen.

'They came and asked me whether I could cook and I told them about my mum,' Kim said.

'There was no looking back after that.'

Kim wasn't strictly vegetarian back then, but he understood herbs and spices and had a good handle on international cuisine, the likes of which hadn't been seen in Melbourne yet.

'I remember serving up some Japanese dishes and people looking at me wide-eyed. They'd never experienced Japanese cuisine before.'

In 1980, Kim took up the role as owner of Shakahari and has steered the flagship restaurant from strength to strength, including opening a sister restaurant in South Melbourne in 2012.

'This is never something I set out to do, but the stars aligned and I just kept saying "yes",' Kim said.

Kim credits the restaurant's success to being experimental and adding an element of creativity to the dishes.

'I think a lot of people conflate vegetarianism with salads, but you never get plain salads here.'

'It's all about well-balanced nutritionally sustaining and health-promoting dishes with a colourful mix of protein, carbohydrates, vitamin and fibre.'

'For example, we were one of the first restaurants to use protein-rich quinoa and hemp seeds in the 80s, before these were household items you could buy at the supermarket.'

When asked about the impact of COVID-19 pandemic, Kim is philosophical.

'It has been really stressful, but as long as my people were okay and our 40-year-old pot plants in the courtyard were watered, there wasn't much else we could control,' Kim said.

'Many of the people I started working with in the 70s are still here - we are more than a business, we are a family, a community.'

'I hope Carlton can continue to thrive, that we can bring back that emphasis on arts - theatre, galleries, handicrafts and specialist businesses in the neighbourhood.'

'This award is certainly encouraging - it recognises the ongoing necessity for small, innovative businesses to maintain the unique character of Carlton.'

To read more inspiring stories of Melbourne's small businesses, visit melbourne.vic.gov.au/commendations

Information and events in this publication are current at the time of printing. Subsequent changes may occur. All photos taken in line with health and safety guidelines.

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Beh Kim Un at Shakahari, recognised with a Lord Mayor's Commendation

Why are they locked up?

Continued from page 1.

Ismail said he had also experienced maggots in his meals, adding that the food seemed to get worse when they complained, which was compounded by limited to no medical attention.

"If you have a mental disorder or depression, all they give you is sleeping tablets," he said.

The plight of the Park Hotel detainees was brought back into focus last month after the world's number one ranked tennis player Novak Djokovic was held there after the federal government cancelled his visa due to his unvaccinated status.

Mr Djokovic did not use his international platform to advocate for the release of the 30 or so men who have been locked up, who subsequently have fallen out of the public eye while their mental and physical health deteriorates.

What hope do the men at Park Hotel have of being freed?

Local activist Apsara Sabaratnam said most of the men who had been released so far had required hospitalisation because their medical conditions got "really severe."

"That's where the cases are won, when the lawyers can prove medical negligence on part of the government," she said.

"It's an incredibly arduous process and it's slow."

Ms Sabaratnam said the recent Djokovic saga highlighted those legal avenues for the men to be granted visas were extremely limited.

"There are test cases being won, but one refugee at a time."

Other refugees and asylum seekers at the Park Hotel have been granted visas to live in the US, Ms Sabaratnam said, while others had been released by the federal government at random without explanation.

"Sometimes the government just decides to release a number of people without any rationale as to why they've chosen particular people over the other group of men," she said.

She said real change would only come from legislative reform by ending mandatory detention, and by ensuring that the Minister for Home Affairs did not have sweeping powers to detain and release people arbitrarily.

The federal government has spent more than \$8.3 billion on offshore and onshore detention since 2014, according to the Refugee Council of Australia.

This does not include the tax revenue and the economic benefit of granting visas to asylum seekers entering Australia.

Meanwhile, the government is preparing to introduce austerity measures in wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Park Hotel activism gathers international attention

Local activist Peter Green said the day after Mr Djokovic was brought to the Park Hotel, two activists used a cage to climb up onto the awning above the entrance and drop a banner that read "Abolish Detention Centres".

He said the two women were up there for



▲ Police surround two protesters on the roof of the Park Hotel in January.

Photo: The New York Times.



▲ Uncertain futures: Adnan (left) and Ismail (right) have been detained for more than eight years despite being granted refugee status.



10 hours, with police forming a line around them that night to prevent demonstrators from disrupting other police who were removing the two activists with a scissor lift.

"After [the two women were brought down], my friends got in the cage," Mr Green said.

"The police pushed the cage over with them in it. A man, Tom, had red welts on his back from the police tipping it over."

"The police picked up the cage and put it in the scissor lift and drove off with it."

He said not long after, *The New York Times* featured an image on page one of its website of police arresting the two women on the roof while surrounded by a wall of police.

Mr Green has since located the cage and brought it back for the demonstration outside the hotel on January 28.

Dubbed "The Cage Project", Mr Green said he and other activists invited anyone to spend eight minutes in the cage to represent eight years for the detainees held at the Park Hotel.

Councillors call out human rights abuses

At a February 2021 City of Melbourne Future Melbourne Committee meeting, councillors lashed out at the Federal Government's detention of people at the Park Hotel, labelling it as a "gross violation of human rights".

But councillors were divided over a motion which originally expressed "grave concern" at the provision of medical and mental health support for people detained at the Park Hotel and called for their immediate release into the community.

Cr Olivia Ball, who holds a Masters and PhD

in human rights, argued against a "watering down" of the motion which asked the Lord Mayor to advocate on behalf of refugees and asylum seekers detained in the municipality to the federal government.

"Are we not prepared to condemn gross violations of human rights here in our neighbourhood?" Dr Ball said.

"What is that saying if we retreat from a simple condemnation of what's indisputably, and unequivocally, a human rights violation?"

However, Cr Phillip Le Liu did not support the original motion, instead choosing to support the amended version which did not require businesses, organisations, and individuals in Melbourne to act in support of people seeking asylum.

"[A]t the end of the day, it's [the detention of refugees] not our remit, it's the federal government's," he said.

Councillors Sally Capp, Nicholas Reece, Jason Chang, Roshena Campbell, Phillip Le Liu and Kevin Louey voted to support the amendment to the motion, while councillors Rohan Leppert, Olivia Ball, Jamal Hakim, Davvyd Griffiths and Elizabeth Doidge voted against the amendment.

Cr Leppert said he was "bitterly disappointed" that the motion was amended but said if it was a choice between supporting this "form of words" or nothing, he would vote for it through "gritted teeth".

"Whatever is resolved tonight, that fight for their [asylum seekers in detention in Melbourne] will continue and the fight to uphold human rights of everybody must continue, and that is everyone's business," he said.

The council considered the amended version of the motion and ultimately all councillors voted in support of it, apart from Cr Le Liu, Cr Chang and Cr Campbell who abstained.

In response to questions from *Inner City News*, Lord Mayor Sally Capp said the council had since requested additional mental health support and medical services be provided to refugees that remain detained at the Park Hotel in Carlton.

"There was a council motion calling for an immediate determination of their cases, which I have raised with the Home Affairs Minister," she said.

"We're continuing to work with a wide range of stakeholders to provide those detained at the Park Hotel with safe access to physical and digital library resources."

If you or anyone you know needs help:

- Lifeline on 13 11 14
- Kids Helpline on 1800 551 800
- DirectLine Victoria drug/alcohol counselling on 1800 888 236
- MensLine Australia on 1300 789 978
- Suicide Call Back Service on 1300 659 467
- Yarning SafeNStrong on 1800 95 95 63
- Beyond Blue on 1300 224 636
- Headspace on 1800 650 890
- ReachOut at au.reachout.com
- Care Leavers Australasia Network (CLAN) on 1800 008 774
- HeadtoHelp on 1800 595 212
- Brother to Brother on 1800 435 799 ●



FAMILY MURMURINGS

A collaborative art exhibit of writing, art works & virtual reality by Ken Chan, Nancy Liang and Oliver Clifton.

FEBRUARY / MARCH 2022
Museum of Chinese Australian History
22 Cohen Place Melbourne VIC 3000



This project has been assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body.

Supported by the City of Melbourne Arts Grants.

Supported by the Museum of Chinese Australian History.

Science Gallery's first exhibition

WORDS BY *Carol Saffer*
ARTS & CULTURE

A hamster wheel looks like a ladder tied in a circle designed to give a cute little rodent a way of exercising in a tiny cage.

Wheel, a vibrantly coloured human-sized hamster wheel, is one of more than 20 works on display at the inaugural exhibition, *MENTAL: Head Inside* at the Science Gallery Melbourne.

The gallery is located within Melbourne Connect, an innovation precinct developed by University of Melbourne on the corner of Grattan and Swanston streets.

MENTAL features installations from local and international creators and research collaborators manifesting a range of different perspectives on mental health and wellbeing.

Artist Hiromi Tango's *Wheel* was created in collaboration with Florey Institute of Neuroscience and Mental Health researcher Dr Emma Burrows, and Dr Tilman Dingler, a computer scientist and researcher.

Wheel metaphorically asks each viewer what if you could turn a dial to boost your mood instantly?

It explores the effect of colour, playful spaces and exercise on mood and the influence of positive social reward on our exercise commitment.

Hiromi Tango is a sculptural and textile-based artist known for experimenting with vibrant colour, lighting and details that bring the invisible connections with nature, others and ourselves to life.

Her art is aimed at healing as she is captivated by what makes people happy.

Science Gallery Melbourne's head of curatorial, Tilly Boleyn, explains that *Wheel* is about exercise and motivation and its importance for good health.

"This is Emma's first human experience; she has always worked with mice," Ms Boleyn said.

"Her research has shown improving the rodent's environment with colour and light



▲ *MENTAL* features installations from local and international creators and research collaborators manifesting a range of different perspectives on mental health and wellbeing.

improves their mood."

"In the gallery space, when you jump into the human rat wheel and start running, the people in the gallery, or people watching streaming online, can encourage you with love hearts on the wheel's screen sent from their mobile phones."

"The numbers show whether more encouragement by these methods leads to people staying on the wheel for longer."

"Can we encourage motivation through 'likes'?"

Dr Dingler's collaboration involves his expertise in using data from smartphones, wearables, and novel sensors to model and enhance our abilities to communicate, process information, and learn more effectively.

Lived experience is a tool utilised, recognised and centred as expertise for the exhibition, helping illuminate and navigate mental health, which now matters more than ever.

Visitors to the gallery are encouraged to enter a welcoming place to confront societal bias and stereotypes around mental health and reflect on different ways of being, surviving and connecting in the world.

Part exhibition, part experiment, the Science



“

As a new home for STEM engagement, we aim to show that anything is possible when science and art come together.

”

Gallery is a place to explore, empathise and question what it means to be human using science, technology and creativity.

Director of museums and collections at the University of Melbourne, Rose Hiscock, said the new gallery "provides a contemporary, playful and welcoming space for young people to explore issues, ideas and the great challenges of our time".

"As a new home for STEM engagement, we aim to show that anything is possible when science and art come together," Ms Hiscock said.

An innovative model of engaging 15- to 25-year-olds with a network of artists and scientists results in exhibition ideas for the gallery.

There is a pool of talent at hand due to the proximity of University of Melbourne, and students can self-nominate.

Currently, 35 young people known as the Sci-Curious group propose topics and themes of interest for future shows and exhibitions.

The launch of Science Gallery Melbourne comes when around 75 per cent of the fastest-growing jobs in Australia require science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) skills.

However, there is declining interest in STEM at the secondary and tertiary education levels.

"Science Gallery is trying to show that the sciences, maths and engineering are incredibly creative and curious fields," Ms Boleyn said.

Young gallery staff, known as mediators, work under a peer-to-peer model with a remit to be ready to chat to visitors if they have questions or comments.

"More than 80 per cent of our guests at our previous pop-up shows said this meant they had a conversation about a topic they would never normally have had," Ms Boleyn said.

Science Gallery Melbourne, located at 700 Swanston St, entry via Grattan St, is open Thursday to Saturday from 11am to 5pm. From Wednesday, February 22, it will be open Tuesday to Saturday. Free entry ●

For more information:
melbourne.sciencegallery.com

Plans proceed for hotel revamp after joint venture considered

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*
PLANNING

The owners of Magnolia Court, a former boutique guesthouse in East Melbourne, is believed to have looked at creating a joint venture as it looks to revamp the historic building.

The building 95-101 Powlett St is currently boarded up with the owners Primeland Group and Singaporean fund Baksh Capital, who purchased the property for \$9 million in 2020, wanting to refurbish it by adding rooms, increasing the size of the restaurant and lobby areas.

Plans for the \$4.5 proposed revamp plan have been submitted to the City of Melbourne and are being assessed.

However, sources have told *Inner City News* that the owner had looked at the option of creating a joint venture with an international party, with an inquiry made with a real estate firm, but "nothing has been transacted".

One source, who wished to remain anonymous as they weren't authorised to speak publicly, said the property wasn't advertised, however one inquiry eventuated with a "personal visit" to the property by an unknown party.

The hotel is understood not to be on the market with the owners "still proceeding" with their planning application before the council.

East Melbourne Group planning convener Greg Bisinella, who has joined residents in fighting the plans after having cited concerns of increased traffic and noise, said it was his understanding that the building was "advertised as a development opportunity".



▲ *Greg Bisinella East Melbourne Planning Convener. Photo: Cam Grant*

He said revised plans had been supplied to the council in reducing the hours of operation and the size of the outdoor dining but it's "still excessive".

"They've said they would stop the outdoor dining at 8pm and the overall indoor dining at 11 o'clock instead of 11.30pm and reduce some of the numbers internally," he said.

"Ultimately, those amenity issues that we raised are still pertinent to us and we still have grave concerns about that, we haven't changed our position."

Residents have argued that the proposed plans would have "adverse impacts" on the amenity of the neighbourhood.

The City of Melbourne said the "application is currently still under assessment".

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Staying safe on Australia Day

WORDS BY Rhonda Dredge
COMMUNITY

Not everyone was attending Australia Day celebrations this year or protesting against them.

Many Carlton residents were taking precautions against catching the virus instead.

At the public housing estate in Drummond St, kids were being vaccinated.

But they weren't forced to wait in a queue. Instead, they were gallivanting across the lawn catching bubbles released by Becky Bubble.

"I'm a bubble scientist," Ms Bubble said, as she waved her wand in front of the Cohealth clinic. "I'm doing it to entreat kids to get a vaccination."

At the nearby Rathdowne Street Aged Care, visitors were doing RAT tests prior to seeing their parents.

Caroline Stewart took it a step further by rescuing her 94-year-old mum from a noisy Australia Day quiz for a quiet picnic in the park.

"Where in Australia would you see the big poo?" cried out a compere draped in an Aussie flag.

Rowena Stewart wasn't answering. She was much happier having her hair done under a



▲ Caroline and Rowena Stewart having a picnic.



▲ Carlton kids chasing bubbles before a vaccine.

large shady tree.

"It's a day for family," daughter Caroline said. "I used to go to Government House for the police band and a sausage sizzle but not this year."

Many with elderly parents have faced huge difficulties keeping in touch during the pandemic and a day in the park was the answer.

Caroline brought ham sandwiches and her dog, and her mum said she was almost back to normal after a stroke five years ago.

As a research officer at the Royal Children's Hospital, Caroline knows how to handle health regulations.

She applied for an exemption during lockdowns and received one because she is the only relative Rowena has in Melbourne and was able to keep visiting.

"I was in full PPE, gown, visor and a P95 mask. It was awful in the early days," she said. "We were not used to it. The centre was open, closed, open, closed."

But despite the precautions the longest she went without seeing her mum was just two weeks.

She said there was COVID in the centre but they were managing it. Visitors are required to take a RAT test before entering. "All you have to do is arrive 15 minutes early." ●

New security doors for housing tower following safety concerns

WORDS BY Brendan Rees
SAFETY & SECURITY

A public housing tower in Carlton, which was the scene of a horrific stabbing last November, will have security doors installed to every apartment of the building.

The new doors will be rolled out at 495 Cardigan St between February and March to improve ventilation and safety of residents after the local community raised the issue with the state government.

Cory Memery, founder of the Public Housing Residents Network, proposed the idea which resulted in a face-to-face meeting with the Minister for Housing Richard Wynne last September.

"He did take it as a priority ... it's a win-win for everyone," Mr Memery said, but added he had hoped the initiative would include all public housing buildings in the area.

"There's been stabbings over in that particular building [Cardigan St] so it's a good proposal and it will work."

"Also, with COVID, everyone said they needed ventilation. People who live in these buildings can't really open their front doors for



▲ Resident David Bikupski welcomes an initiative for security doors to be installed at 495 Cardigan St Carlton.

fear of people walking in."

Resident David Bikupski, who has lived at the Cardigan St tower for four to five years, said he welcomed the project as he said he felt unsafe "at times" when needing to open his front door on warm days because he didn't have air-conditioning.

"It's a major concern. People just walk in, it's happened once," he said.

"People wait downstairs for someone to come

in the lift. They get in the building that way.

"Someone stabbed my door, and other people's places have had their doors kicked in and stuff."

Mr Bikupski was at home with a friend when a man was stabbed outside the tower following an altercation on October 11 last year, which reignited residents' concerns of safety.

"I was sitting in here with my mate and we heard something," he said. "We'd seen him [the victim] holding his back, so we threw a towel down and had to call the ambulance."

According to police, a 53-year-old man was stabbed during the incident and taken to hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. The male assailant had fled the scene.

Victoria Police has been contacted regarding an update on the investigation.

A letter sent to residents advising of the security door installation said Colcept Architects had been engaged to carry out inspections before the installation of the new doors.

No access would be required to the apartments as consultants would be in contact with residents, the letter said.

Homes Victoria said scoping and necessary building approvals for the door installations was underway, with tenders to be called once

There's been stabbings over in that particular building [Cardigan St] so it's a good proposal and it will work. Also, with COVID, everyone said they needed ventilation.



this was completed.

The initiative is part of the government's \$2.7 billion Building Works program, which will provide almost \$500 million to upgrade 23,000 dwellings and build 168 new homes across the state, all while creating jobs for Victorians ●



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The murmurings of a creative collaboration making its way to the city

WORDS BY *Kaylah-Joelle Baker*
ARTS & CULTURE

Melbourne's very own Museum of Chinese Australian History is kicking off the year with an exhibit that speaks into the core of what the museum hopes to achieve when showcasing creative work.

Open from late January through to the end of March, following the decision to extend the date due to COVID restrictions, *Family Murmurings* is unlike anything else the museum has ever shown.

A collaborative art project combining Ken Chan's written stories with artist Nancy Liang's illustrations, the exhibit is brought to life with the help of Oliver Clifton's virtual reality aspects.

It's a cleverly dynamic project that the Museum of Chinese Australian History's CEO Mark Wang could not pass up on having in the museum.

"Ken Chan's activity is at the foundation of what we do [as a museum]. These stories are the most important aspect of the museum because

“

Family Murmurings is a very individual experience and shows what the museum wishes to see more of in the coming years.

”

They are stories about the identity and heritage of Chinese Australian people," he said.

"*Family Murmurings* is a very individual experience and shows what the museum wishes to see more of in the coming years."

Proud to be sharing such an "interactive"

experience with visitors, Mr Wang believes the virtual reality aspect of the project will only aid in making the stories more "interesting and meaningful".

While *Family Murmurings* delves into the area of fiction, and originated from his higher degree thesis, writer Mr Chan said the stories were predominately inspired by his childhood of growing up in Sydney as a Chinese Australian.

"I took remembered events as a starting point and then refashioned them into fiction. There's a collection of nine stories altogether and they are each linked," he said.

"With fiction you can explore and use creativity to develop dimensions in a story that don't otherwise exist. You can open up the narrative and invent situations that get more to the core of what is going on."

Centred around one family and their unspoken individual experiences, illustrator Ms Liang also lent on her own childhood as a Chinese Australian to extract and illustrate particular slices of the story that resonated with herself.

Encapsulating more experiences and

generations than what Mr Chan ever anticipated when he chose to speak into the lived experiences of Chinese Australian people in the 1950s and '60s.

And while the preparations to get the exhibit organised have been difficult given the current circumstances, Mr Chan is "excited" for visitors to immerse themselves in scenarios they may or may not be familiar with.

"This is the first time I have had the experience of working collaboratively with very talented people like Nancy Liang and Oliver Clifton and we feel very fortunate to be working on such an exciting and viable project together," he said.

"The exhibition will hopefully also give viewers another way of looking at and experiencing art."

Located in a historic building on Cohen Place, *Family Murmurings* follows on from the Museum of Chinese Australian History's *One Million Stories* Exhibition, which focused on bringing attention to its monumental 200-year celebration of Chinese people arriving in Australia ●

Locals recognised in Australia Day awards

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*
COMMUNITY

Seven inner city residents have been recognised in the 2022 Australia Day Honours list, for contributions in a range of fields including health, literature, and charitable organisations.

Leading the list was senior intensive care specialist at the Royal Melbourne Hospital and Melbourne Private Hospital, Professor Peter Morley, who was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia [AM].

He said the award, which recognised his services to intensive care medicine, professional societies, and tertiary education, was a "surprise" and something he "never considered" he would "receive or be nominated for".

"I love the people around me, to be surrounded by interested and passionate people who are really keen to make a difference and help people, that's the inspiring part," he said.

While "humbled" by the Australia Day recognition, he said the pandemic had been "quite challenging" and was "a reflection on our resilience that we can step up".

"I'm quite proud to be a Melbournian and watch the way we can band together and get through this," Prof Morley said.

"We've had the worst lockdowns and yet some of the best outcomes in the world. We should be proud of what we've been able to achieve."



▲ Professor Peter Morley was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia [AM].

East Melbourne resident Andrew Wheeler was also awarded an AM for his significant service to the community through charitable organisations, including the Sentinel Foundation of which he is the founder, which focuses on supporting early childhood development and better health outcomes for young Australians.

He is also a board member of the Mornington Peninsula Foundation, "doing enormous things" to help break the cycle of disadvantage among households with children in what he described as being in "some of the worst situations".

Mr Wheeler said he was humbled by the Australia Day honour which came as a "huge surprise". He said making a "real difference" for children being able to read and count at a basic level was "very, very rewarding".



▲ Melbourne East resident Andrew Wheeler who was awarded an OAM.

Elsdon Storey, an Adjunct Professor of neurology at Monash University, was also appointed an AM for his significant service to medicine in the field of neurology, and to professional associations.

Prof Storey said he was humbled to receive the award and appreciated the recognition for his work which he described as "something of a challenge and it still remains that way".

"The reason I chose to study neurology was that the brain is such a complex system that I knew there was a lifetime worth of work and more there," he said, but added it was his role in mentoring young doctors choosing a career of research and clinical medicine was something he "found very satisfying".

Prof Storey, a former Rhodes scholar who served as head of the Alfred neurology unit for 20 years, has stepped back from clinical work after being diagnosed with Parkinson's disease five-and-a-half years ago, but is still involved in research.

He said his major field of work in the past few years had been the dementia aspect with a large trial of aspirin to prevent the onset of death or disability in healthy older individuals, as part of the very large Australian/USA ASPREE trial, but "unfortunately, no benefit was found".

"This study was designed in such a way that many useful sub-studies have also been undertaken, from measuring cognition to effects of aspirin on vision and hearing," Prof Storey said, adding he anticipated that analysis and reporting of these results would occupy him for the remainder of his research life.

The honours list also saw popular Melbourne author Alice Pung, who received a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) award, for her service to literature.

Ms Pung is an Artist in Residence at the Janet Clarke Hall at the University of Melbourne. Her first book, *Unpolished Gem*, won the 2007 Newcomer of the Year Award in the Australian Book Industry Award.

Others awarded an OAM included Professor Helen Margaret Rhoades, an acting president of the Australian Law Reform Commission, for her service to the law, particularly to policy reform and legal research; school teacher Elizabeth Freier for her service to the Anglican Church of Australia, and to education; and Dr Jillian Tabart, secretary of the Carlton Church of All Nations, for her service to the Uniting Church in Australia ●



▲ Kellee Pham, florist and owner of Kellee Flowers in East Melbourne.

Photo: Murray Enders.

Show your love on Valentine's Day

WORDS BY *Carol Saffer*
BUSINESS

Kellee Pham, florist and owner of Kellee Flowers in East Melbourne, said Valentine's Day was the most important and busiest in her year.

"For us, it beats Mother's Day hands down," Ms Pham said.

To cope with the demand, she brings in a small team of university students at midnight to work through the night preparing hundreds of boxes of a dozen red roses.

"We have streamlined the process," she said.

"We show them how to choose the best petals and rose heads and how to de-thorn the stems for safe presentation," she said.

The classic red rose continues to be the most popular and traditional flower on February 14.

"Our most extravagant order from a customer one year was for 100 long stem red roses at the cost of \$1500," Ms Pham said.

Having been a florist for more than 20 years, she has seen changes in the industry and the choices of her customers.

Ms Pham said there was now a growing trend for the more classic white and green floral bouquets.

"While hardier native flowers are becoming popular with the younger generation," she said.

Wei Shan, the owner of Growers Flower Factory in Carlton, agrees that red roses are his best seller on Valentine's Day.

He points out most flowers are now flown in from Kenya, saying that "local growers are being pushed out of the market by the importers."

He laments the impact COVID has had on his business, saying that he would normally experience a 100 to 200 per cent increase in business on the day in a good year.

His business opens at 7am, with all flowers boxed and wrapped ready for the customers.

As well as the tradition of giving flowers on Valentine's Day, a special dinner with a loved one is usually on the cards.

Ashleigh Dyer and Glen Bagnara, co-owners of Hemingway's Wine Room in East Melbourne,

are very excited about their *Farewell To Arms Valentine's Day Dinner* this year as it is their first one since opening in June 2020.

Ms Dyer said due to the COVID lockdowns, most of the restaurant's trading was take away meals for the past two years.

Usually not open on Monday nights, Hemingway's is set to wine and dine couples with a four-course set menu and a glass of NV Champagne Pol Roger for \$149 per person.

"Our head chef David Yuan has put a lot of work into creating this speciality menu," Ms Dyer said.

The menu includes such delicacies as Scallop Ceviche, Clam Chowder, a mouth-watering Angus Porterhouse, and to finish, a delicate Peach Melba with raspberry coulis, crushed meringue and sabayon.

"After the past couple of years, to have time for a special date and quality time to connect with your partner is really special," Ms Dyer said.

"I know you should tell your partner I love you every day, but it's nice to have an extra special day to say it."

Ms Dyer said the Brasserie section in Hemingway's was quite a romantic setting, and "we will be setting the mood for sure with extra candles and appropriate music."

Bookings can be made at hemingwayswinerom.com.au or by phone at (03) 9416 5064.

Other restaurants offering a unique Valentine's Day dinner are the Carlton Wine Room in Faraday St and Scopri on Nicholson St.

History has it that Valentine's Day is named after Saint Valentine, a Catholic priest who lived in Rome in the 3rd Century.

While Romans were converting to Christianity, Emperor Claudius decreed his soldiers should be completely devoted to Rome and passed a law preventing marriage.

St Valentine was conducting marriage ceremonies in secret and was jailed for his crime.

It is believed he cured his jailor's daughter of her blindness while in prison and his final act before being executed was to write her a love message signed "from your Valentine".

Valentine was executed on February 14 in the year 270 ●

Local landscapes make a comeback

WORDS BY *Rhonda Dredge*
ARTS & CULTURE

Everyone loves a landscape and if you've been to Airey's Inlet for a beach holiday the image of Eagle Rock might still be conjuring up the mood.

Many artists have tried to capture the distinctive rocky outcrop near the lighthouse.

Bridget McDonnell has had a few rock paintings in her Faraday St gallery.

She currently has a Jan Senberg landscape of Aireys, although the scene is less recognisable and the painting quite stylised.

Ms McDonnell said that people typically had "a yearning for a place" from their holidays but collectors rarely rushed in for landscapes in February.

The yearning grows until winter when she is happy to oblige. She encourages browsers, which is half the fun of collecting. You never know what might catch your eye.

The gallery is a local institution, in Faraday St since 1986, and Ms McDonnell reported a bumper month in December, selling 40 to 50 works out of her Christmas exhibition.



▲ *Bridget McDonnell surrounded by lively little landscapes, including Melbourne Cemetery by Lucy Boyd.*

"It was a good show for us," she said. The works were all priced below \$3000 to make them affordable.

A large, bold waterfall by Lucy Boyd, youngest daughter of Arthur Boyd, also sold for \$3500.

A smaller Boyd is still up for grabs, a painterly impression of the Melbourne Cemetery with

bold brushstrokes and vivid lighting.

"It's a gutsy little painting done eight to 10 years ago when Lucy lived in Park St.

People will want it because of the painting rather than the actual location," Ms McDonnell said.

Landscape is difficult to paint because artists can be overwhelmed by the specifics of a

well-known place.

Cemeteries are more generic and allow for poetic expression, although the artist has brought in the Dandenongs in the background to give it context.

A good proportion of McDonnell's gallery is filled with work by Boyd and Perceval descendants.

"I like the continuity," she said. "They learned from their parents and became innovative. They didn't have a choice. They all know how to paint. Celia has made a good living from an early age."

Ms McDonnell mostly stocks Australian works but also a few by Russian artists because she admires their more adventurous and confident handling of paint.

She said they were trained up like gymnasts. One painting on her wall by a Russian art professor is livelier than most of the local works put together.

"I love researching pictures, finding out the back stories and showing artists not represented elsewhere," she said. She got her research skills from her mother who ran an antique store in Hampton ●

Royal Park Golf Club driving their way to 120 years

WORDS BY *Kaylah-Joelle Baker*
SPORT

For golf-enthusiasts in Parkville, the Royal Park Golf Course is a place to come together and bond over a shared love of the sport.

And for many members of the Royal Park Golf Club, it is a place to celebrate and remember the rich history that comes along with the course; a history many visitors are unaware of.

Hoping to continuously honour the course and the club is Parkville resident Denise. As a local who has lived in the area for 24 years, she dedicated her time to research, compiling and producing the booklet *A Centenary in the Park: The History of the Royal Park Golf Club*.

Published in 2003, Denise wrote the booklet knowing "she could and no one else was going to".

As the only female committee member of the Royal Park Golf Club at the time, Denise believes in the importance of the golf course and its founding club.

"My late husband introduced me to the love of golf in 1999. I live 177 metres from the first tee and play three times a week when I can," she said.

Situated on the northern boundary of Royal Park, between Carlton and Brunswick, the golf course came about in 1903 when a group gathered together at Parkville Hotel to form a golf club.

Seeing the potential of Royal Park, the club leased the land from the Royal Park Trustees, before it fell under the control of the City of Melbourne, and built an 18-hole course.

One year later its application to be a



registered club was accepted by the Victorian Golf Association.

And as shared in Denise's booklet on the club, the first Club Championship was held in 1906, and the Club Champion the following year was a left-handed golfer by the name of W.R. Opie whose "favourite explanation for an indifferent round" was his handicap of "his heart frequently [getting] in the way"; an issue right-handers did not seem to have.

The number of holes on the Royal Park Golf Course soon lessened to nine within the following years due to a lack of attendance.

And despite a rising attendance of 440 club members 60-years after its opening, the number of holes on the course has remained the same to this day.

Accompanying the alterations of the holes,

the course was also impacted when the No 58 tram line was built in 1923, making Royal Park Golf Course the only course to now have both a tram line and a train running through it.

Permission was also given by the City of Melbourne for the Royal Park Golf Club to make immediate improvements on the green using funding from their members.

Thirty years later, an additional 5000 pounds was spent to improve the clubhouse, an amenity benefitting not only the members of the club but also the green fee players.

But at the start of 1970, ashes from the briquette dust heap at the rear of the clubhouse started a fire that not only destroyed part of the building but also the club records, trophies and club members property.

This resulted in a disagreement with the

council over the new conditions to make the course public, something that would result in the club losing its membership with the Victorian Golf Association.

With this in mind, a decision to leave Royal Park behind was made.

Members of the Royal Park Golf Club merged with Keilor Golf Club and formed Tullamarine Country Club. A decision that only lasted a couple years as the club reformed with Royal Park Ladies Golf Club in 1972 and Royal Park Men's Golf Club in 1974.

And as the club and course at Royal Park nearly reaches 120 years old, many members are left reflecting on what the grounds mean to them, including five-time British Open winner, and past junior member of the Royal Park Golf Club in 1942, Peter Thomson.

"It didn't exactly prosper, but it did the next best thing – it endured," Mr Thomson said.

And it is this endurance that makes the Royal Park Golf Course unlike any other course in Victoria.

"The Royal Park Golf Course is much loved by local and non-local residents who love to walk around a lovely part of Royal Park, listening to lions roaring and siamang gibbons barking from the zoo," Denise said.

"And they find it therapeutic to hit a golf ball really hard." ●

For more information:
royalparkgolf.com.au

ELLEN SANDELL

STATE MP FOR MELBOURNE

Hi, I'm Ellen, your local State MP.
I'm here to help. Don't hesitate to get in touch.

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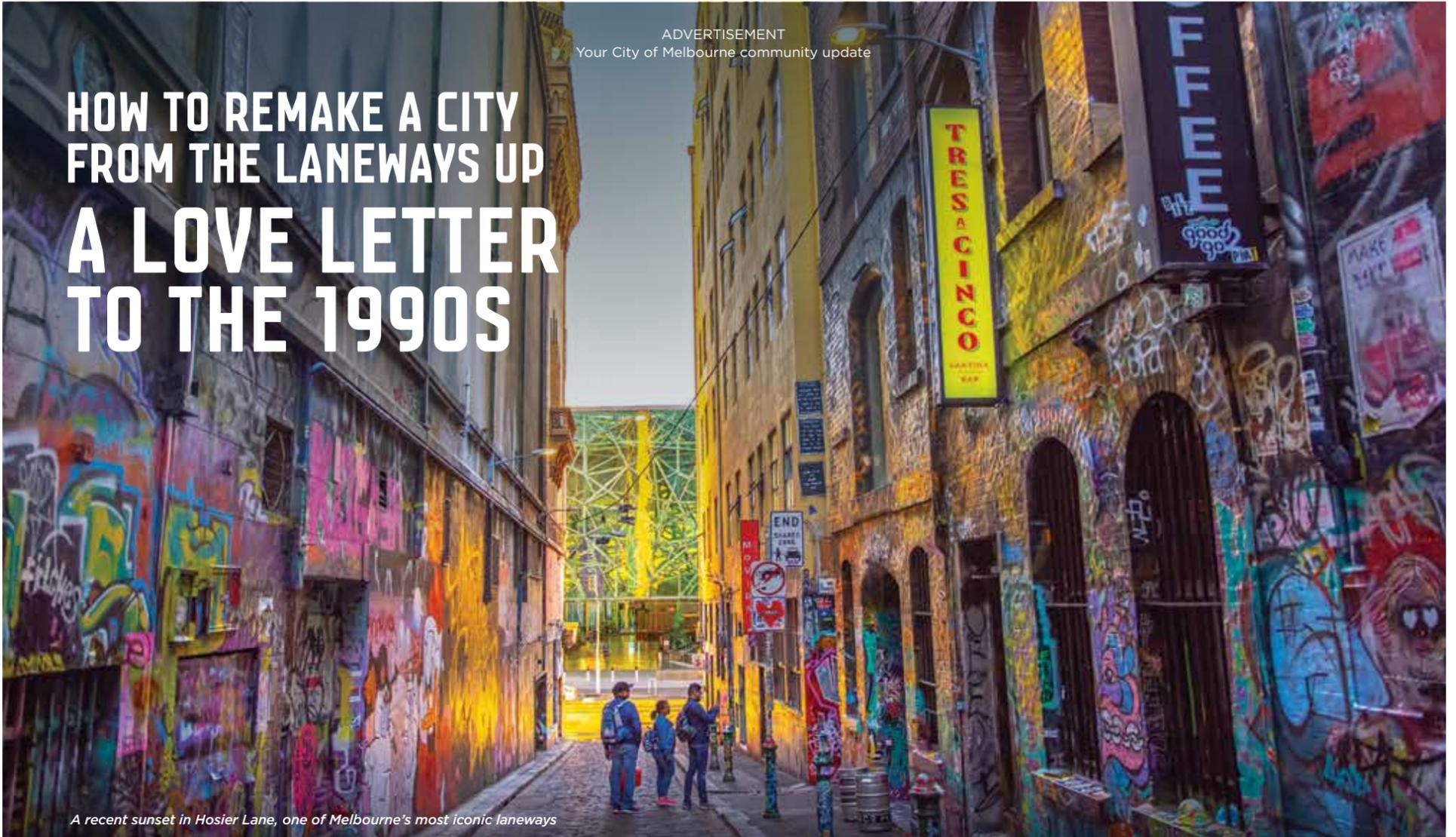
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HOW TO REMAKE A CITY FROM THE LANEWAYS UP A LOVE LETTER TO THE 1990S



A recent sunset in Hosier Lane, one of Melbourne's most iconic laneways

What can the genesis of Melbourne's much-loved laneway culture teach us about remaking the city?

As the sheen came off our '90s obsession with sundried tomato focaccias, a quiet revolution was underway in the city's abandoned buildings and underground arcades.

'On a Sunday we'd cook a barbie on the roof of our building on Hosier Lane, and it felt like the only other living creature in the city was the bird of prey circling overhead,' said Mark Healy, a founding director of Six Degrees Architects.

Mark and 10 friends had taken over the top floor of an old building made vacant by the recent recession. It felt like they had the city to themselves but when the sun went down their entertainment options were limited to musty pubs and noisy nightclubs.

'We wanted somewhere in the city to stay up late and drink and talk with friends, and one of us had the idea of starting a bar,' said Mark. They pooled their slender resources and converted a stripped-out hair salon into the city's first laneway bar.

'There were no grand plans beyond that. Meyers Place was open from 4pm to 4am and all drinks were \$4,' said Mark. It was 1994.

The bar was quickly crammed full of curious artists, designers, makers and city dwellers, many of whom had set up homes and studios in hidden warehouses and faded neo-Romanesque beauties.

Tiny bars were soon scattered like secrets across the city's laneways: Rue Bebelons, Misty, Hairy Canary, St Jeromes, Troika, Hell's Kitchen, Robot, Gin Palace.

'Melbourne discovered its mojo during the 1990s recession,' said Craig Allchin, another co-founder of both Meyers Place and Six Degrees Architects. 'It built a brand out of empty spaces.'

'It was an interesting place. It was cheap to rent those old spaces. That's what enables new things to happen in cities. And that's currently up for grabs again.'

Although the crew from Meyers Place has moved on to different projects, some of these bars are still serving drinks more than 20 years later, and our foodie scene now graces our footpaths and parklets through our outdoor dining initiative.

.....
'There's value in curating free or very inexpensive spaces for creative people. There's a lot you can do with empty spaces created in the city by the pandemic.'
.....

Cheap rent attracts artists

A sweeping view of the city convinced jeweller Ali Limb to take a seventh-floor studio in the Nicholas Building in 1994. That and the cheap rent. She joined a matrix of creatives tucked away in draughty city studios.

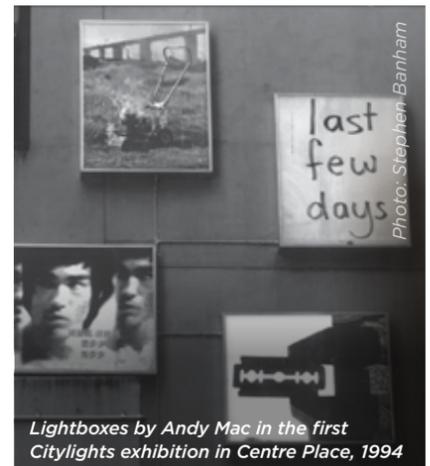
'Jewellers in the city were doing really great and edgy stuff. Like an exhibition of rings formed from ice that would gradually melt over the day,' said Ali. 'Beautiful, spontaneous, experimental.'

In 1998 Ali teamed up with friend Emma Goodsir to create a laneway retail space and gallery for local jewellers. A startup grant from City of Melbourne helped them take the leap and e.g.etal is still running today in the central city under Emma's direction.

'e.g.etal fuelled the craft and made it a financially viable career for many artists,' said Emma. 'This contributed to the city's growth into an internationally recognised hub for contemporary jewellery.'

Momentary beauty was also fostered by indie fashion house Alice Euphemia, which opened in a 'dark and spooky' underground arcade in Flinders Way in 1997 and eventually moved into an empty police station in Cathedral Arcade.

'The rent was so cheap we could afford to be creative,' said owner Karen Rieschiek, who ran Alice Euphemia for 17 years. Alice nurtured nascent local labels including Gorman and Kuwaii.



Lightboxes by Andy Mac in the first Citylights exhibition in Centre Place, 1994

The launch of each new collection was an excuse for a party that spilled out into the laneways and attracted all types of creatives. Collaborations abounded.

'You can't fake that. There's value in curating free or very inexpensive spaces for creative people. There's a lot you can do with empty spaces created in the city by the pandemic. How landlords use their empty space is going to be very beneficial to the city,' said Karen.

The City of Melbourne is now connecting landlords with prospective tenants like artisans and entrepreneurs to convert empty shopfronts into pop-ups through its Shopfront Activation Program.

Putting the fun back into art

Look up while walking down Centre Place and you'll still see two of the four light boxes that the City Lights crew stuck to a wall on the side of a bank in the early '90s. Vessels for a new type of exhibition space.

'It was 50 per cent permission and 50 per cent punk anarchy,' said Citylights co-founder Richard Butler Bowdon. 'The punk anarchy sucked people in. It was unexpected. People were used to seeing advertising in light boxes but instead they got art.'



Citylights 2 launch party in a pre-graffiti Hosier Lane, circa 2000

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Your City of Melbourne community update

Citylights soon expanded to eight smaller light boxes in Hosier Lane. On the surrounding walls, young artists began to put up stencils, stickers and paste-ups.

Street art culture began its stealthy spread. The laneway launch parties got rowdier.

'The stencil thing really blew up at that Hosier Lane site. It was from the ground up. We were part of a current that put fun back into art,' said Richard.

When the city turned its attention to buffing the streets until each surface sparkled, it also created empty canvases for street artists, according to curator Dr Lachlan MacDowell.

'You wouldn't spend six hours painting a wall that would be cleaned regularly. So stencilling began to make sense - you could create multiples and not worry too much. They were at the human scale,' said Lachlan.

From punk roots sprang the City of Melbourne's Laneway Commissions program which saw new temporary artworks commissioned, like love letters to the local terrain. A giant safe lodged perilously overhead. A confession chamber. Unreachable phone boxes.

Having seen the city as a playground in the 1990s, Lachlan has teamed up with artists to bring light and colour to our laneways through the Flash Forward program, which commissioned artists to add their distinctive mark to 40 city laneways.

'The punk anarchy sucked people in. It was unexpected. People were used to seeing advertising in light boxes but instead they got art.'



Photo: John Gollings

The former Meyers Place bar, a pioneer in laneway culture

Urban choreography

It may have seemed spontaneous, but the slow dance of 'urban choreography' - as Council's City Architect Rob Adams describes his 38-year relationship with Melbourne - began in 1985.

'We made incremental changes to reinforce the city's own character,' said Rob. Footpaths were widened. Lighting was added and traffic calmed. Disused roads were reclaimed as green space. Melbourne began to play to its strengths: iconic bluestone pavers, laneways.

'Gradually, we even returned our attention to the long-forgotten river.

'When the property market crashed, rents in old buildings dropped and everyone moved to high-class accommodation. These old buildings were left empty.'

While adventurers had made a community in some empty spaces, Rob and his team approached landowners and encouraged them to convert their buildings into residential spaces.

The idea was controversial at first and required fancy footwork with the fire department and other regulators, but Postcode 3000 evolved quickly and Melbourne's residential population swelled from 685 city dwellings in 1982 to more than 40,000 dwellings today across the CBD, Southbank and Docklands.

Through a new residential campaign, 'This is your local', we're once again encouraging people to embrace city living and make the most of current stamp duty concessions on new apartment purchases.

There were unexpected side-effects of the success of Postcode 3000. As more professionals moved into the city, studio spaces were converted into apartments and rents went up. Many artists were forced to withdraw, but they left a powerful legacy.

'The creative people who got pushed out by Postcode 3000 are the people we can bring back into the central city post-COVID,' said Rob.

'If we can get those empty spaces and put creatives into those spaces, what a great combination.'

Footpaths were widened. Lighting was added and traffic calmed. Disused roads were reclaimed as green space. Melbourne began to play to its strengths: iconic bluestone pavers, laneways.

For more information visit magazine.melbourne.vic.gov.au/reignite-melbourne

WAYS TO LOVE MELBOURNE

Laneway street art

Look at our laneways afresh. Flash Forward has revitalised 40 central city laneways with art, sound and lighting. Or book a free street art walking tour. Read more at magazine.melbourne.vic.gov.au



Melbourne Attractions Keypass

Melbourne moments

Get discounts through the Melbourne Attractions Keypass. Look for \$20 tickets at Arts House. Catch a gig. Connect with Aboriginal Melbourne. Cruise around our friendly bike lane network. Find out more at www.klook.com/en-AU/promo/city-of-melbourne/



Shopfront Activation Program

Shopfront activation

Look for entrepreneurs and artisans-in-residence at street level. We're transforming empty shopfronts into creative spaces and temporary shops under a \$2.6 million program with the Victorian Government.

Local businesses

Enjoy an outdoor table at your favourite eatery. We're making it easier for businesses to trade outdoors with permit fee waivers, new infrastructure and a boost for the Business Concierge.

Parks and gardens

Pack a picnic basket full of goodies from an indie city grocer and explore our stunning city gardens. Find the secret waterfall, do some forest bathing and breathe.



River Studios, Creative Spaces

Creative spaces

Find a space so you can create. Creative Spaces fosters art in the City of Melbourne by connecting artists with affordable studios. We manage several studios and two public art galleries, as well as the national website creativespaces.net.au

CRYSTAL BALL: WHAT'S NEXT FOR MELBOURNE

Here's what five 1990s laneway legends imagine might come next for inner-city Melbourne.

The long lunch

'For all the talk of different styles of work, the social nature of one-to-one time is what we're craving. Maybe it means the return of the business lunch? That chance to say, "Hey, let's have lunch and go shopping", or meet after work for a drink. The human stuff.'

Mark Healy, co-founder of Meyers Place and Six Degrees Architects

Old-fashioned 'hospitality'

'It will all be about the word "hospitality". People will want to be cared for, made welcome. It's not all about the dollar, or how many bums you can fit on seats. It's about creating a wonderful space that people want to enjoy.'

Andre Bishop, founder of Robot Bar in Bligh Place

Artist-led recovery

'An artist-led recovery will only work in the long-term if artists are seen as central to the functioning of a city, no matter how gentrified it gets.'

Stephen Banham, designer and lecturer at RMIT

Business innovation

'Allowing inspired small business people freedom to create is what sets Melbourne apart, so we should continue to invest in them.'

Ben Luzz, owner Gin Palace and Bijou Bar and Bottle Store

Bring the energy back

'I'd like to see some pop-up places - independent fashion stores, shopfront artist's studios, small music events, artist-run galleries in vacant shops, street markets. It would be great to bring back the vibe of the 90s.'

Concettina Inserra, artist and photographer



Information and events in this publication are current at the time of printing. Subsequent changes may occur. All photos taken in line with health and safety guidelines.

KEEP IN TOUCH

To stay connected with all the latest news from the City of Melbourne, follow us on social media and subscribe to *Melbourne* magazine online at magazine.melbourne.vic.gov.au

You can also join conversations to influence plans for your neighbourhood through Participate Melbourne at participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au

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CITY OF MELBOURNE

School community creates recipe book *Love, Lee Street*

WORDS BY *Carol Saffer*

PHOTOGRAPHY BY *Elise Scott*
COMMUNITY

The annual Carlton North Primary School Fete is the major fundraising event organised by the parents of the kids who attend the school.

Mum Sarah Kelk describes the fete as the biggest fundraiser by a country mile.

"The school requires quite a lot of extra funding as we don't get enough money as a school to run without it," Ms Kelk said.

For the past two years, during COVID, the fete was cancelled.

When the money started getting low in the parents' fundraising piggy bank, the fundraising team, comprised of parents and a couple of staff members, rallied and brainstormed.

When the idea of a cookbook was brought to the table, everyone loved it and decided to give it a go.

Ms Kelk said, "We needed another way to raise the money, and we wanted to continue to have a community feel just like the fete."

"We didn't know how much work was involved when we agreed to the idea, in particular, because the community was in lockdown," she added.



It was a brave decision to create a recipe book without realising what was involved.

"We were probably naive in thinking it would be fine," Ms Kelk said.

Doing food photography in the middle of heavy lockdown where visits to homes were forbidden meant their volunteer photographer, Elise Scott, Ms Kelk's friend, did the shoot in a laneway outside her apartment.

On one occasion, Ms Kelk's kids were in the car doing Zoom school lessons while she and Ms Scott used the boot as the food assembly area for the shoot.

Because the book's creation was logistically challenging, everyone involved is even more

proud of the finished product.

The team canvassed the school's pupils' families and the local cafes, shops, and bars for recipes.

The recipes needed to be easy enough for anyone to cook.

"If a Grade 6 kid picked up the book, they needed to be able to follow and cook any recipe in it literally," Ms Kelk said.

"We wanted everyone to be proud of the book."

The children did drawings for the book as an art project during the lockdown.

Consequently, peppered among the pages of the book are their hand-drawn pictures.

The first batch of printed books was delivered in early November 2021.

Support and involvement came not just from the school and family alliance.

Local businesses supported the project by providing recipes while Readings in Carlton and The Little Book Room in North Fitzroy stock the finished book.

Local real estate agency Nelson Alexander contributed a generous donation that went a long way to cover the printing costs.

Ms Kelk said, "We call it a country school in the city because we have a school roll of under

300 children, from Prep to Grade 6 with ages from 5 to 12 years, and everyone knows everyone else."

At the beginning of the recipe book idea, the fundraising team pulled a group of parents and supporters together to discover they had a lot of the skill set needed to produce the book.

The only external person contributing during COVID was Ms Scott, the photographer, who was thrilled to assist as she could not work during the lockdown.

Ms Kelk said there was a book publisher at the school, someone who had worked in printing for a long time and many people who worked in visual fields.

"One family runs a digital marketing agency, so they helped with the layout by getting a print file ready," she said.

It was very fortunate that the fundraising gang could call on the local community to utilise its strengths.

A challenge like this during lockdown turned out to be very welcome.

Some of the helpers and their children were the recipe testers; staying home, they cooked and checked the validity and ease of the recipes.

The first print run of *Love, Lee Street* was 1500 copies ●

"They are missing, we miss them": Plan to bolster city's student reputation

WORDS BY *David Schout*
EDUCATION

More than a third of the CBD's student population have left the city since the onset of COVID-19, and a plan has emerged to arrest the slide.

The City of Melbourne has released a blueprint to make Melbourne the world's number one city for "student experience" to combat those turning away.

The council has acknowledged it needed to "re-build Melbourne's reputation" and would employ a range of measures to attract and retain international students.

These included free tickets to local attractions and events, wellbeing services and employment pathways.

The city is currently joint-second — alongside London and behind Berlin — in the "student view" indicator according to university ranking group QS.

The rankings form a key part of marketing to prospective students around the world.

Melbourne was the third-best student city overall in 2019 according to QS but has now dropped to sixth, and councillor Phillip Le Liu said those in the sector were feeling the pinch.

"The feedback so far from the industry [is that] they're being hit hard," he said.

"It [declining ranking] is a big hit for the agents who are trying to entice students back to Melbourne."

In has emerged that students have turned away from Australian universities in favour of those in the United Kingdom and Canada.

A key reason for this related to Australia's strict border policy throughout the pandemic.

International education is Victoria's largest service-based export and in Melbourne in particular, the decline loomed as a long-term economic and cultural hit.

"We feel it everywhere," Lord Mayor Sally Capp said.

"Whether they are renters of property, workers in businesses, customers at retail hospitality and cultural venues or volunteers in our local community groups. They are missing and we miss them."

Among the blueprint was plans to launch an inaugural Melbourne International Student Week at Federation Square this year. The council acknowledged that several factors related to a prospective student's decision to come to Australia, including border and visa issues, were outside its control.

However, it said a student's experience within Melbourne was something it had the capacity to influence.

On this measure it had a "clear" plan to be ranked number one in the world, as Cr Capp conceded the city could improve.

"Other counties have been making the most of this opportunity to attract international students to their cities, to welcome them. We've seen incredible upticks in enrolments in places like London and Toronto. We need to get out there again," she said ●

E-scooters have launched

WORDS BY *David Schout*
TRANSPORT

Hundreds of electric scooters will be available to hire across the city and nearby surrounds from February 1 as the City of Melbourne confirmed details of a long-awaited hire scheme.

Up to 1500 scooters will be available to hire and ride across the Melbourne, Yarra and Port Phillip council areas, via confirmed providers Lime and Neuron Mobility.

The green and orange scooters, booked via their respective apps, will be permitted to travel at 20kmh on bicycle lanes, shared paths and low-speed roads (up to a maximum 50kmh speed limit).

They will not, however, be permitted on footpaths and riders must wear a helmet.

Once a user has completed their ride, they can park it almost anywhere provided it is out of the way of pedestrians and away from designated "no go" areas.

These areas include Fitzroy and Treasury Gardens, University of Melbourne grounds, plus the entire Carlton Gardens area including the Royal Exhibition Building and Melbourne Museum.

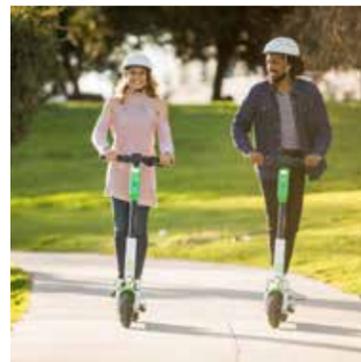
Neuron Mobility's head of Australia and New Zealand Richard Hannah said the group was "delighted" to have been chosen for the multi-municipality trial, which will run for an initial 12-month period and continue if successful.

"E-scooters are really well suited to the city and they will be a great way for locals as well as tourists to travel in a safe, convenient and environmentally-friendly way," he said.

Safety concerns surrounding e-scooters have reared their head in several jurisdictions both within Australia and around the world, and Mr Hannah said it was a key area of focus.

"Safety is our top priority; it dictates our e-scooter design and also the way we operate them. Our e-scooters are packed with a range of cutting-edge safety features, we have a full suite of insurance, including third party liability cover, and we know from experience in other cities that our riders really appreciate this."

Several cities around the world



▲ Geofencing technology will enforce "no go" and "go slow" zones for the scooters.

have operated e-scooter sharing systems since 2017, notably throughout the US and Europe.

Closer to home, Brisbane and Auckland have also trialled the micro-mobility option.

Announcement of the trial is arguably well overdue for what is a largely unregulated transport option.

Most private e-scooters seen on the city's streets prior to the trial's launch were illegal, as they are both too powerful (greater than 200 watts) and travel faster than 10 kmh (current Victorian law).

While Minister for Public Transport Ben Carroll said last year that inner-city councils — with a mix of low-speed roads, shared user paths and bicycle lanes — were an ideal testing ground for new transport options, the truth is that Melbourne has had a chequered relationship with micro-mobility hire schemes.

Singaporean-based oBikes were quickly booted from the city when their fleet of yellow bikes were more likely to be found in trees and rivers than paths and roads during a calamitous period in 2018.

Later in 2019 the state government's "blue bikes" were also axed.

While these sturdier "docked" blue bikes had not experienced the same dumping issues as oBikes, uptake was low.

More recently, however, e-bikes (also provided by Lime) have emerged as an available option, also in the neighbouring councils of Yarra and Port Phillip.

The City of Melbourne said it would closely monitor outcomes during the year-long e-scooter trial ●



A love story by Hemingway

WORDS BY *Rhonda Dredge*
ARTS & CULTURE

The war is over. Those who have lived through it are maimed and world weary.

Ex-soldier Jake Barnes goes travelling. It's one town after another.

He arrives in Spain, meets a girl and has a few drinks.

He returns to a few favourite bars. The conversations are clipped, and he drinks too much.

There is nothing that remarkable about Jake's story, just one of moving on, always with the same aim, of seeing the beautiful Brett Ashley somewhere, somehow.

Brett remains forever elusive, a gay creature flitting around Europe making the most of the 1920s.

But those moments Jake has spent dreaming and the snippets of conversation that never reveal too much are an antidote to his memory of war.

Glen Bagnara in East Melbourne is a fan of Hemingway. He loves the seductive prose, the lavish drinking and, most of all, the moving on.

He met his own partner Emma on a cruise. They were both working, he as a sommelier. She was running the day spa. They clicked and kept on cruising for the next couple of years as the romance blossomed.

Fast forward 30 years and Glen has opened a brasserie in Wellington St, East Melbourne. He's called it Hemingway's Wine Room in deference to his favourite author and of a way of life that blossomed between the wars a century ago.

"The times were opulent," Glen said. "If you look up that period in history, the celebrity of the day, the journeyman, traveller and boozier was Hemingway."

Glen approves and he opened his wine bar on March 20, 2020, unfortunately on the day the city went into lockdown, and he is still waiting for the roaring '20s to begin.

He might be talking to his accountant these days rather than a literary following, but Glen has put a lot of detail into his menu, bar list and decorative style to capture an era that may or may not re-emerge.

Hemingway didn't go for his Christian name of Earnest and preferred to be known as Papa and this detail is reflected in the menu, as are other trademarks of the writer.

Glen doesn't want to labour the point. His restaurant is not a theme park. People have their own take on Hemingway.

"They come here with an idea in mind," he said. Some prefer *A Farewell to Arms*, others *The Sun Also Rises*. Glen likes *The Old Man and the Sea* ●

STATE MP



▲ Ellen at the War-Rak/Banksia festival at La Mama Theatre in Carlton.

How do we keep Melbourne's vital arts scene alive?

I was so pleased to recently attend the opening night of the War-Rak/Banksia festival at the newly rebuilt La Mama Theatre in Carlton in December. This local theatre has been through so much. Following the fire that destroyed the theatre in 2018, La Mama committed to rebuild, only for us to enter a pandemic which has devastated Melbourne's arts and creative industries.

But through all this, the La Mama team persisted, and the new theatre is absolutely stunning. The War-Rak/Banksia was chosen as the theme for their reopening festival as, after fire, its flower comes back stronger and more beautiful than ever.

The arts is such a big part of what makes Melbourne unique. It feeds our soul and it fuels our economy. But the Omicron outbreak is continuing to make it very difficult for our precious arts and creative industries to survive.

After significant advocacy by artists, the Greens and others, I was very pleased to see the state government recently announce four-year funding for more than 100 creative organisations - including La Mama theatre, Melbourne Fringe Festival and Midsumma. Ongoing, more-secure funding for festivals and arts organisations is something I asked the government to provide as part of our CBD recovery plan and I'm very pleased to see this funding become a reality.

The arts have a history of reviving cities after crises - from Berlin to Christchurch. Our iconic arts organisations and festivals often run on the smell of an oily rag or exist on unstable year-to-year government funding.

Longer-term funding for this sector will help ensure our creative industries and workers thrive and become sustainable long-term, and that our city remains vibrant.

But more is needed to keep our creative sector alive right now. We also need to protect our arts communities and heritage buildings. Yet right now one of our most iconic arts venues - the Nicholas Building - is about to be sold and is at risk of being turned into apartments. I've joined the community in calling on the state government to provide a loan to the City of Melbourne or the Nicholas Building Association to buy the heritage building so that it can be retained as an affordable, unique arts and creative community. So far, the Labor state government has refused, but we're continuing our advocacy.

I want my kids to grow up in a Melbourne rich with culture and creativity - the Melbourne that I know and love. I will continue to push for support for creative industries, along with other important initiatives to get our city thriving again. You can find out more about the Greens plan to revitalise the CBD at greens.org.au/cbd.

If there's ever anything I can do for you, please get in touch at office@ellensandell.com ●



Ellen Sandell
STATE MP FOR MELBOURNE
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CARLTON INC. TRADER PROFILE



▲ Chef Kazuki Tsuya (centre) and his team.

Photo: Murray Enders.

Kazuki's: a genre-bending dining experience

“With classic European techniques, seasonal Australian produce and Japanese discipline, you'd be forgiven for thinking Lygon St fine diner, Kazuki's, falls under the ever-growing umbrella of “fusion” dining.

”

But whatever you do, don't say that to husband-and-wife team Kazuki and Saori Tsuya.

Rather than a fusion of flavour and cuisine, Kazuki's is an amalgamation of two decades of refinement, working as a culinary institution like Alla Wolf-Tasker's Daylesford icon, Lake House, and Jean-Paul Prunetti's bustling,

France Soir, resulting in a genre-bending dining experience like few others in Melbourne.

Nestled on the bustling southern end of Lygon St between an Australia Post and a woodfired pizza restaurant, stepping into Kazuki's you are immediately met with a lesson in finesse.

From the monochrome façade to the soft, but distinct interior which sets the tone for a five or seven course journey (depending on lunch or dinner bookings), from the crowd favourite black seaweed butter and house made bread to Moreton Bay bugs with ponzu and cabbage.

According to Mrs Tsuya, after first establishing Kazuki's in Daylesford in 2011, the couple fulfilled their long-held dream of relocating their acclaimed regional dining destination to the city in 2018.

“The preparation time to find the right location was quite long. It took us over a year to find the right space and then relocate to Carlton,” Mrs Tsuya said.

“It was a hard process. In a sense, we had to be found again, and that was a challenge.”

After two years since the start of the pandemic in Australia, the team at Kazuki's, much like rest of Melbourne's hospitality industry, has become all too familiar with the rollercoaster of reopening and shutting due to lockdowns, the near impossible task of replicating its food for a takeaway offering, keeping staff in work and keeping its head above water.

But now, as the light at the end of the tunnel becomes more persistent, returning to its foundations of procuring and championing hyper-seasonal, predominantly Victorian produce, the Tsuya's have their sights firmly set on the now, with a very cautious eye on the horizon.

“We are grateful that we can do what we do now. We have been pretty lucky, over this summer we haven't had to close like other restaurants,” Mrs Tsuya said.

“We always talk about new projects, but for now we want to put a highlight on great producers in the Victoria, and others from overseas, and continue to enjoy what we do.” ●

For more information visit: kazukis.com.au



Jack Hayes
BUSINESS EDITOR
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CARLTON ROTARY CLUB

Associate Member's exciting appointment

Dr Noor Shah Kamawal was originally a member of Carlton Rotary Club in 2011-2012 when he completed a Masters in Epidemiology at the University of Melbourne as a recipient of an Australian Government Scholarship. Dr Kamawal graduated from Nangarhar University, Jalalabad, Afghanistan with a Degree in Medicine in 2007.

From 2008 to 2021, he held many roles with the Ministry of Public Health in Afghanistan as the Coordinator for the AIDS program; Director for Health System Strengthening; CEO for the National Medicine and Healthcare Products Regulatory Authority; and Director General for Afghanistan National Public Health Institute.

Dr Kamawal has been appointed as Technical Adviser at the Nossal Institute for Global Health within the Melbourne School of Population and Global Health at the University of Melbourne. His research interests are focused on communicable diseases, evaluation of regulatory systems and gap analysis for health system engineering.

He and his wife and seven children left Afghanistan shortly after the Taliban seized Kabul last year. The family was one of many Afghan refugee families who settled in Australia. Unsure as to whether Dr Kamawal



and his family would be staying in Melbourne or moving to Brisbane, he was re-admitted into Carlton Rotary in September 2021 as an Associate Member. However, his appointment at the Nossal Institute means that he will be able to settle back into life in Melbourne. His life's journey has been quite a story of courage, perseverance and resilience. The Carlton Rotary Club welcomes him home and his family.

Carlton Rotary plans to hold regular fortnightly Luncheon Meetings at Graduate House, 220 Leicester Street, Carlton commencing on February Tuesday 8 at 12.30pm for a 1pm start. Visitors and prospective members are always welcome and can contact President Keith Ryall at the email address below.

The first Social Meeting for 2022 was a Barefoot Bowls night at the Thornbury Bowls Club on February, Tuesday 1 at 5.30pm. For all Rotary events COVID safe practices are followed in line with the procedures.

The Club thanks all the donors, supporters and buyers of books, as well as a small army of willing volunteers, who contributed to another very successful Book Fair held last December. This enables the Club to continue to make donations to worthy local, national and international causes. A full list of the causes and charities supported by Carlton Rotary will appear in the March *Inner City News* ●



Keith Ryall
PRESIDENT-CARLTON ROTARY CLUB
KEITHFRYALL@GMAIL.COM

ABORIGINAL MELBOURNE

Aboriginal man wins top prize for artwork depicting identity and sexuality

As a proud gay Aboriginal man, Ronald Pepper didn't hold back in putting his all into a recent piece of artwork which took home the top prize in the Koorie Art Show.

WORDS BY *Spencer Fowler Steen*

A swirling, brightly coloured collection of images and paintings on canvas, Mr Pepper's artwork *Coming Out 2* tells the story of his identity growing up as a First Nations man, a story he is "proud and honoured" to tell.

"It's exhilarating," he told *Inner City News*.

"It's nice to put my stories out there and to win an amazing award and to have all the elements of my art practice and to tell a story in a nice way."

Part of Mr Pepper's painting exhibits trips he took to Japan and China in 2010 under his local government's Sister City program.

Since then, his love for art has only grown having graduated from Federation University with a Bachelor of Visual and Media Arts in 2017.

He has since had multiple commissions and been involved in exhibitions in Australia and overseas.

Asked what inspired him to create *Coming Out 2*, which earned him the Koorie Heritage Trust's (KHT) \$10,000 top prize, Mr Pepper said he wanted to put everything into one painting.

"What inspired me was I wanted to create something that tells the story of my identity

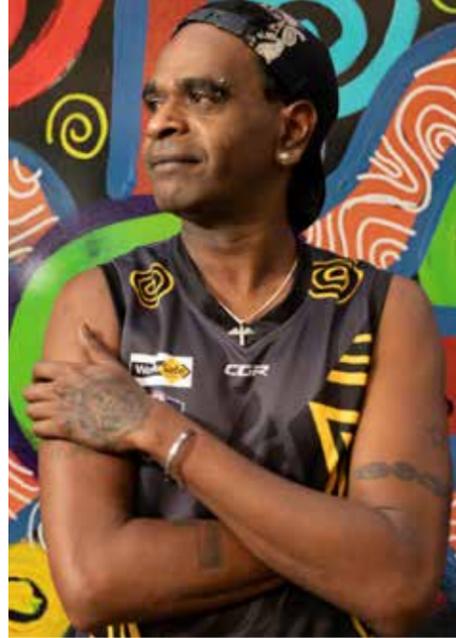


and growing up as an Aboriginal man," he said.

"I'm gay in two worlds, in a positive cultural way, and I wanted to let people know that coming out in the 21st century; you can be who you are and be proud of what you do in your culture and where you're from – to be a role model for your people."

Mr Pepper's esteemed piece of artwork is also about passing on the lore of the land to the next generation, which he experienced with stories told to him by his late mother.

"Last year and the year before were sad and very dark for me," he said of this experience in



an interview with Andrew Stephens for KHT Voices.

"Doing the bright colours and having support around me brought me to where I am. They [my

parents] would be very proud of me now."

"Moving on in healing, in art – that has helped me a lot to process what has happened and to move forward."

Mr Pepper said the spirals signifying the intergenerational passing on of knowledge "will get bigger and bigger and grow more."

Mr Pepper also wished to congratulate his fellow artists in the Koorie Art Show and the artists who exhibited their work in KHT's Blak Jewellery exhibition.

"I see all the amazing artists making their art and it's bringing back what we've learnt through our time, and I'd like to say congratulations and to keep doing what we're doing to shape who we are as Aboriginal people," he said.

"I'd also like to thank the Koorie Heritage Trust for the opportunity they've provided me."

Mr Pepper is currently using an array of new art equipment he purchased using the prize money to produce new, "very different" artwork which will be exhibited at the KHT soon ●

For more information:
korieheritagetrust.com.au

PUBLIC HOUSING RESIDENTS' NETWORK

Public housing tenants came together to improve their housing

Late last year I welcomed the state government's new program to have structured consultation with public housing residents in Flemington and North Melbourne through the Pave the Way Forward Program (PWFP).

Early indications, though, are that the listening is not happening as promised.

Pampas St public housing resident Deepa Gutpa, a member of the new action group, reported to sister publication *North West City News* last year that she had been asking for basic repairs "to no avail."

One of her neighbours, a 92-year-old and handicapped woman fell and injured herself in her bathroom last year because a broken light had not been fixed despite making "dozens" of calls.

My own representations on lifts in the Carlton estate have been met with a better response and I look forward to having them addressed early this year.

Victorian Ombudsman

Victorian Ombudsman Deborah Glassman emerged as a hero for public housing tenants last year with her report on the lockdown of the Flemington and North Melbourne towers in 2020 being found to breach residents' human rights.

The Ombudsman's 2021 Annual Report advised that there were 1,137 complaints from public and community housing residents combined.

Ms Glassman found this number unacceptably high and has promised to examine the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing's complaints handling this year.

I welcome this new commitment and support the strengthening of the Ombudsman's office and its capacity to respond to complaints.

I know things are very difficult with

COVID-19 but it doesn't excuse habitual poor responses by the Department.

Social housing regulations reviews

An interim report from this review **engage.vic.gov.au/social-housing-regulation-review** handed down during the Christmas break includes wide ranging proposals to change how public, community and so-called affordable housing is regulated.

Community housing organisations (CHO) were found to be problematic in how they regarded their tenants' rights.

This is an important finding as the state government is fully committed to replace public housing with community managed and owned housing. The *Big Housing Build* is all about this objective.

One proposal is the transformation of the Victorian Public Tenants Association (VPTA) into an agency that covers both public and community housing tenants.

Having championed a campaign for a Public Housing Ombudsman in 2020 and 2021, I do not support this proposal.

The VPTA has lost support among public housing tenants and has struggled to secure public housing tenants as board members.

Making the VPTA a body for both public and community housing tenants fits with the government's agenda of moving away from public housing as the most cost-effective and secure form of housing for the well over 110,000 adults and children on the waiting list, which is growing not going down.

Big house build

The Regulation Review's interim report made the following observations on pages 78 and 79 about community housing:

"Even though registered community housing agencies are not-for-profit organisations, more complex financial models and new investment vehicles are emerging which are altering the sector's risk profile. Developments involving a mix of social, 'affordable' and market priced housing delivered by multi-party consortia are emerging in response to the Big Housing Build. This model is encouraged by the National Housing Finance Investment Corporation (NHFIC) which has found that, in combination, provision of government-owned land, mixed-tenure developments, NHFIC finance plus private sector finance can help address the low rental returns for community housing projects and reduce the level of state investment required. While this model may result in greater growth in social housing than would otherwise occur, CHOs are expected to take on higher levels of private debt (albeit at historically low cost) to help fund growth and must manage the risks involved.

CHOs are becoming involved in multi-party special purpose vehicles (SPVs) which enable for profit businesses to access funds and become involved in not-for-profit housing beyond the traditional roles played by the private sector in housing construction and lending. These entities may take various legal forms and have complex governance structures that differ significantly from the existing registered housing agencies. The introduction of for-profit entities and new entrants in the sector as SPV participants, and the upscaling of development activity, may pose risks in relation to service delivery and tenant outcomes, financial stability, governance and probity and reputation risks to the sector if things go wrong. There are examples from overseas jurisdictions where the involvement of for-profit partners and/or a relaxation of regulatory scrutiny of providers' investment activities have resulted in poor outcomes for tenants and the social housing sector. The current regulatory regime was not designed with these arrangements in mind."

CHOs under this scenario will move increasingly away from providing housing for very low- to low-income earners as they look for higher rental returns to balance the books.

Just before Christmas we saw new public housing demolition projects confirming this drive by the government. Barak Beacon Boulevard, Port Melbourne estate residents

received a letter from Homes Victoria CEO, Ben Rimmer telling them they will have to move out during 2022 so that the estate can be redeveloped. No prior consultation, just a notice to vacate.

Redevelopment will be under the "ground lease" model that provides public housing land at peppercorn rents for 40 years to developers to build a combination of private full market rent, lower than market rents and a minority of dwellings for community housing tenants. Private rents in Port Melbourne are high and investors will get their returns if it goes ahead.

The Age published a letter last December that summed up what is happening:

"Unseasonal greetings

A good friend of mine has lived for some years in comfortable and pleasant 1970s public rental housing in Port Melbourne, just opposite the expensive, private Beacon Cove estate. On Tuesday she and her fellow tenants received a letter, dated December 4, advising them that they "will be required to relocate" next year and their housing will be demolished.

Oh yes, someone knocked on her door from Homes Victoria the day before but, by the time she answered it, they had left – clearly not understanding how long it takes for someone with chronic health problems to get up and answer the door. So much for their understanding of vulnerability.

Oh yes, Homes Victoria will be offering housing somewhere else. That will make everything all right – not. Ironically, it does not understand the difference between housing and home. Shame on the ALP.

Tim Gilley, South Melbourne"

I met with 35 residents at the estate in January, along with other members of the Save Public Housing Collective. Residents are saying the buildings are structurally sound and don't have to be knocked down. They don't want the extreme trauma of moving out of their homes.

I am supporting these residents in saying no to this shameful proposal ●



Cory Memery

CORYMEMERY@YAHOO.COM

Down the rabbit hole with Gerald Diffey

The ephemera in Gerald's Bar in Rathdowne St, Carlton, furniture and everything on the walls and the shelves, has a back story.

WORDS AND IMAGES BY *Carol Saffer*
ARTS & CULTURE

When his customers started asking about various things, he started writing about them 10 years ago.

He found his stories, all written by hand, soon burst out of the bar to include tales about his life, travels, childhood and his family.

Max Allen, a good friend and wine writer, took his pile of scrapbooks to edit and structure his many pages into a book titled *Beggars Belief, Stories from Gerald's Bar*, released in December 2021.

It is nothing like celebrity chef Anthony Bourdain's tell-all book *Kitchen Confidential*.

Gerald describes it as gentle stories about hospitality, food, drink, travel and experiences. "It's no expose," he said.

He wrote in the evenings after work for many years.

Behind all those words lies a raconteur; people who have read the book tell him it reads like he is just having a conversation with them.

For example, on page 53, "I like coffee fast. That's why I hate coffee art: in the time it takes to render a version of the Sistine Chapel on my *caffè cortado*, I could have travelled halfway to Rome to see it myself."

He said the book was not rooted in food and drink and appealed to a wide readership.

"My attitude to hospitality is what is called the three Cs – connectivity, conviviality and community," he said.

"Food and wine is the glue that holds the

book together, but it's about my experiences, places in time and food memory."

Mr Diffey writes about his earliest food memory on page 13 of the book, involving a bowl of "lovely thick cold vanilla custard the size of a cowpat."

It is the type of book that does not need reading in one go.

At 25,000 words, it is a slim book.

He describes it as perfect for the toilet; easy to hold with stories, in most cases, no more than two pages long.

He was born into hospitality as his grandparents had a pub for a hundred years in Suffolk in East Anglia in the UK.

He started working in the bar when he was about 11 years old and began pouring pints at 15 and has never done anything else.

He has no formal training in cooking or preparing food.

However, he worked in the bar's kitchen for three years and has cooked at the overseas version of Gerald's Bar at San Sebastian in Spain.

"With 40 years of experience in the industry, you sort of learn [to cook] by osmosis," he said.

He confesses to a great love of art and music, which is evident by what is hanging on the walls and the stack of vinyl LPs lined up behind the bar.

He's been buying and collecting records for 45 years.

"There is something beautiful about vinyl records, with the sleeve notes and the artwork," he said.

"They are delicate and precious, and you need to look after them."



▲ Gerald Diffey's book *Beggars Belief* is available at Gerald's Bar, 786 Rathdowne St, Carlton, open daily at 5pm.

He claims to remember pretty much where he bought each one of them.

Mr Diffey said *Beggars Belief* is not a cookbook.

"But it is a book full of ingredients, such as the music, art, trinkets, food and wine, and everything in between."

It sells for \$35 a copy and is available at Gerald's Bar and "all good book shops" including Readings and Dymocks.

Mr Diffey wrote his stories the way he thinks, so he didn't find it difficult and pays tribute to Mr Allen for his editorial skills.

If he is having a lousy day, Mr Diffey will pick up the book, read a short chapter or two, and feel better afterwards.

His tale on page 87 describes how his Nan and Granddad grew and pickled beetroot – "Cupboards were full of dark jars, like the Ravens in the Tower. If we ran out of beetroot England would fall."

"Quite a lot of the titles of the chapters are expressions my grandmother used to say," he said.

"There is a lot of her language in the book, so when I reread it, she comes back to me, which is nice."

"The book is really about love; it's between the lines."

Mr Diffey is heading to Beechworth, Canberra, Sydney, and Newcastle to promote the book in February ●

EAST MELBOURNE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Vernon Ransford: the elegant left hander

The holiday season is with us and top level cricket at the MCG makes its seasonal appearance in the East Melbourne area. The high point is the Boxing Day Test, this year being an Ashes series against England. The MCG was the place where Test cricket was born in 1877 and was also the venue of the first One Day International in January 1971.

A person who had a long-term connection to top level sport in the East Melbourne area was Vernon Ransford. He was an Australian Test cricketer who later became the chief administrator for the Melbourne Cricket Club.

He was born Vernon Seymour Ransford in South Yarra on March 20, 1885 to Henry and Lydia Ransford. He attended Yarra Park State School and lived just over Punt Road at 9 Moorhouse Street, Richmond. He attended Hawthorn College for his secondary education. After his marriage to Ethel Colina Macrow in April 1910 he and his wife lived at 28 Vale Street, East Melbourne on the corner of Berry Street overlooking the south-eastern corner of Yarra Park.

His family had an import business where he started his early working life.

At the time of his marriage Ransford had established himself as an opening batsman for the Melbourne Cricket Club and represented Victoria and Australia. It was a short stroll across Yarra Park from his front gate to the MCG. He has been described as "the first elegant left-handed batsman" and made a strong impression on the Ashes tour of England in 1909.

Ransford was also one of the players in the major player revolt that preceded the 1912 tour of England. Six of the leading cricketers, including Victor Trumper, Clem Hill and Ransford, clashed with the cricketing authorities about the touring arrangements and refused to go on the tour. A highlight of the dispute was an actual fist fight between Hill



and the chairman of selectors in a Test selection meeting. Gideon Haigh records the fist fight lasted 20 minutes but the consequences for the relationship between players and officials resonated down the years. The Australian Cricket Board of Control asserted its power over the players in this dispute and that situation persisted until 1977 when the World Series Cricket initiative by Kerry Packer revolutionised the game giving the players much greater financial reward for their efforts.

The 1912 dispute together with the intervention of the First World War put an end to

A person who had a long-term connection to top level sport in the East Melbourne area was Vernon Ransford. He was an Australian Test cricketer who later became the chief administrator for the Melbourne Cricket Club.



also an applicant and it has been reported that Ransford won the position over Bradman by the narrowest of margins in the vote of the committee members. It is intriguing to wonder what might have been in Victorian cricket if the much younger Bradman had been given the nod.

Assuming the position of MCC secretary in early 1939, Ransford soon found himself dealing with the wartime use of the MCG as a base to house hundreds of thousands of US and Australian service personnel. The Americans affectionately named the venue Camp Murphy after a senior USAF officer who died in Java. According to Ransford's listing in the Australian Dictionary of Biography his "courtesy and friendliness" in his role as administrator of the venue led the Americans to refer to the base as Camp Ransford in his honour.

He held the position of MCC secretary until retiring due to ill health in 1957, shortly before his death on March 19, 1958, the day before his 73rd birthday.

Vernon Ransford was also a good footballer but did not play at the highest level. However, he was strongly connected to the Melbourne Football Club throughout his life. He was president of the club in the 1920s, and for many years was the club's delegate to the VFL ●

For more information info@emhs.org.au or emhs.org.au

Tim Holland

PRESIDENT EAST MELBOURNE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
INFO@EMHS.ORG.AU / EMHS.ORG.AU



ANNIE MULLER
I'm here from the Netherlands!



GINA SAMUELS
Pure INCREDIBLE talent.



HOLLY WEST
It's entertaining.



STEPHEN BLACKBURN
It's much quicker than watching it on TV.

Faces at Aus Open 2022

What's your favourite thing about seeing tennis live?

PARKVILLE ASSOCIATION

Parkville's heritage

WORDS BY *Rob Moore*
PARKVILLE ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

Firstly, a very Happy New Year to all. I am thrilled to advise that the City of Melbourne (CoM) is about to commence a Heritage Study of Parkville. I have had discussions with the CoM's team members lead by Ros Rymey. There will be extensive consultation with community and the Parkville Association. This fits in superbly with the planning and leading into our sesquicentennial in 2023. Any resident interested in joining our working group please contact me as soon as possible at presidentparkvilleassociation@gmail.com.

We are very fortunate to live in probably the best example of a Victorian suburb in Victoria. Sadly, a couple of older gardens in the early fifties were sold and replaced with apartment buildings. Ninety-eight per cent of South Parkville is still as it was built from 1873 onwards. As part of the study the Council is interested in any buildings from the early fifties. I find that interesting as I consider them new however maybe that's an age issue.

On the subject of heritage and development the building at the corner of Morrah and Royal Parade was built as a guesthouse in 1924. Some view it as modern but it is almost 100 years old. Parkville Association members are aware that the building has been purchased and the new owner wishes to redevelop the site as a medical centre. The Parkville Association and at least 26 residents have objected to date as the development is not in keeping with our wonderful Victorian suburb. I can be contacted for further information.

On the social side the Association Christmas dinner was held at Naughtons with over 60 attendees. A wonderful evening of hospitality and conviviality was had by new and long serving members. Our Party in the Park schedule for early May has been postponed until November 20, 2022 when hopefully we are

We are very fortunate to live in probably the best example of a Victorian suburb in Victoria. Sadly, a couple of older gardens in the early fifties were sold and replaced with apartment buildings.



starting to consign Covid to history.

For Parkville residents who do not belong to the Association we are a group of over 200 members that enjoy the community and the heritage of the area. We have close ties with Royal Park and Melbourne Zoo. Our Parkville Heritage Walks App available from any app store covers our history and has several walks both in the suburb and the Park ●



Rob Moore
PRESIDENT
[PRESIDENTPARKVILLE ASSOCIATION@GMAIL.COM](mailto:PRESIDENTPARKVILLEASSOCIATION@GMAIL.COM)

MELBOURNE ZOO



Melbourne Zoo announces 2022 Summer Cinema program

For a unique and exotic location to watch a movie you can't go past the Melbourne Zoo.

Throughout February and March, the Zoo Summer Cinema program will be screening a program of new release films from critically acclaimed cult directors, including Paul Thomas Anderson's *Licorice Pizza* and Wes Anderson's *The French Dispatch*, alternating with classic movies such as *10 Things I Hate About You* and *Jurassic Park*.

The Zoo's popular twilight calendar of events has been on hold in recent summers due to the COVID restrictions.

Melbourne Zoo director, Michelle Bruggeman, said the program is a great chance for people to socialise and see the Zoo in a new light while supporting the important work of its Marine Response Unit.

"Our Summer Cinema program is the perfect reason to visit the Zoo with friends and loved ones, see some animals and see a great movie," Ms Bruggeman said.

Friends and families are encouraged to arrive early, grab a place on the lawns and bring their own picnic or snack and drinks.

For those who prefer the option of someone else taking care of the food the movie

sessions are being catered by Melbourne artisans Baketico and renowned Melbourne chef Raymond Capaldi. Food hampers can be pre-ordered or head to the food precinct to choose a meal from the food truck. The bar will be open for a chilled wine or a beer.

While waiting for the movie to start audiences can relax and be entertained by DJs spinning tracks and listen to talks delivered by some of the Zoo's keepers.

The Zoo grounds open at 5.30pm and the movies screen at 8.00pm.

The program will run every Thursday to Saturday from February 3 to March 12.

Ticket sales will go towards supporting the work of Melbourne Zoo's Marine Response Unit with its work to rescue injured marine wildlife, including seals and seabirds in Victoria. Last year, the MRU recorded its biggest ever year, responding to 918 cases over 12 months.

All ticketholders 18 years and over are required to provide proof of full vaccination and follow current Victorian Government directions at coronavirus.vic.gov.au ●

For the full program and to purchase tickets go to zoo.org.au/zoo-summer-cinema

Be well and active with your Neighbour Network

While we have had to face unprecedented challenges over the last couple of years, we should not forget to celebrate the small milestones achieved as we come together again in 2022. The community has shown amazing resilience as we pulled together to help one another. Talented locals Diane Clifton and Susan Hodson made many excellent masks and happily shared them with older members of our community. Our local George St Café at times stayed open serving coffee just to preserve the important hub for many locals. The Village Green at Kere Kere in the Fitzroy Gardens came to life as a safe place to catch up and for children to play. The Swap and Share stand gave residents an opportunity to give plants, herbs, and books to others. Over 300 items were donated to the local Asylum Seeker Resource Centre.

Christmas Holiday Hunt

EMNN teamed up with the East Melbourne Group in a hunt for under 12 children following a trail around a section of the Fitzroy Gardens and collecting counting and naming items on December, Monday 20. We finished with prizes, drinks, and lolly bags for each participant. Parents and friends had the chance to meet each other and share a drink and chat at the end of the event.

The Neighbour Network Christmas Drinks

This year was the first time we were able to gather in a large group. It was a wonderful feeling to all be together as we enjoyed the musical talents of John and Alexandra Lidgerwood. The garden and courtyard of a local home came to life with laughter, carol singing and chatter.

Returning to exercise, meeting as a group, chatting to friends on the street, calling in at the local coffee shop are ideal ways to show that life can return to normal. In the coming weeks, subject to the vagaries of COVID, we invite residents to participate once again in a variety of activities offered by the East Melbourne Neighbour Network.

We will resume our Monthly Morning Coffee, making the most of a local open plan courtyard and pavilion to keep us all safe. The Powlett Community Room is ready to welcome new classes and activities every day. New ideas are sought from the community as we seek to provide additional meaningful, fun, and engaging activities for all age groups. We would love to hear from residents of any age who would like to get involved with EMNN. Your ideas and



participation will help strengthen our community and enhance the health and wellbeing of your neighbours.

East Melbourne Neighbour Network Health and Wellbeing Program – Term 1 2022

The East Melbourne Neighbour Network (EMNN) aims to create a thriving and inclusive community and provide a range of enjoyable activities for people of all ages.

All classes are held at Powlett Reserve Community Room which is located beside Powlett Reserve Children's Centre and Kindergarten, on the corner of Grey and Simpson Street, East Melbourne with entry from Grey Street.

Monday

Health Qigong

Maintain harmony and improve your health and well-being with this gentle mind body exercise class

that combines physical movement, mental cultivation and regulated breathing. Presented by experienced instructor Alissia. Classes run on Monday from 9.00am to 10.00am during February and March.

Chair Yoga

If you are interested in yoga but have limited mobility or flexibility the try chair yoga – a gentle practice that modifies poses so you can perform them while seated. Chair yoga is for everybody regardless of age, size or ability. Designed to improve flexibility, mobility and muscle strength while also focussing on breathing and mindfulness. Jane presents classes on Monday from 10.30am to 11.30am during February and March.

Gentle Yoga

This gentle class is designed for everyone regardless of age, level of fitness, degrees of flexibility, weight or gender or any other perceived



limitation. The class begins with simple breathing exercises, progresses through a series of postures (supine, seated, kneeling, standing,) and ends with a guided relaxation. Options/modifications are given throughout the class to ensure that everyone can participate. Yoga enables us to stay active, resilient and strong and balanced. All are welcome on Monday between 5.00pm to 6.00pm in February and March.

Tuesday

Walking Group

Stay fit and get to know your neighbours. Walking is an easy and accessible way to improve your overall health. Studies have found that walking in groups can improve mental health and mood while enjoying a shared experience.

The group meets at the Visitors Centre in Fitzroy Gardens and sets a medium paced walk around the neighbourhood, parks and gardens. Stop for a coffee along the way or at the end. The group walk will meet on February, Tuesday 8, 15, 22 and March, Tuesday 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 and start at either 8.00am or 10.00am depending on interest.

Tai Chi

This year our Tai Chi class has been modified to better suit seniors. Improve your strength and balance through controlled breathing, stretching and gentle artistic movement. Suzanne is the instructor for the classes from 10.30am to 11.30am on February, Tuesday 8, 15, 22 and March, Tuesday 1, 8, 15, 22, 29.

Arts & Crafts Workshop

Would anyone be interested in meeting up on a regular basis to work on personal textile projects such as knitting, crochet, sewing, embroidery, mindful stitching and basket making? An informal get together will be held on February, Tuesday 15 from 1.00pm to 3.00pm to discuss what participants are interested in and how they would like this class to be run.

Thursday

Pilates

These Pilates classes include a series of exercises catering for all fitness levels, focusing on improving your strength, flexibility, balance and posture. Alissia is the pilates' instructor for two sessions in February Thursday 10, 17, 24 and March Thursday 3, 10, 17, 24, 31.

Session 1 is from 9.00am to 10.00am while Session 2 runs from 10.30am to 11.30am. There is a third session for men at 12.30pm to 1.30pm.

Ukulele For Beginners

The ukulele is an easy and fun introduction to learning a musical instrument. Experience and develop musical skills in an encouraging environment. Class presented by passionate uke player, Michaela.

Classes are held on February Thursday 10, 17, 24 and March 3, 10, 17, 24 at 3.00pm to 4.00pm.

Please bring your own ukulele borrow one for the session.

Friday

Gentle Exercise - Move it or lose it

This class focuses on balance, stretching, strength and light cardio to keep you active and confident. Presented by experienced instructor, Jeff Note. This class has already resumed and more members are welcome. A second class will be arranged if there is enough interest.

Dates: February Friday 11, 18, 25 and March 4, 18, 25 and April 1.

Registration and contact details:

For further information about classes or if you have ideas on other activities you would like to participate in, please visit our Facebook page East Melbourne Connect or contact Sue on 0402 356 533 sjhenderson52@icloud.com or Ann-Maree on 0417173818 eckersley.am@gmail.com

The cost for all classes is either \$10 or \$12 and covers the instructor's fee. Classes are paid in eight-week blocks. You are welcome to attend first class without commitment if you wish to check suitability.

Classes are not held on public holidays. All participants must be fully vaccinated. Classes and class numbers subject to change due to COVID restrictions ●

Contact Sue Henderson:
sjhenderson52@icloud.com

METRO TUNNEL

101 Victorians – could you be one of them?

We all know Victorians are a diverse bunch, but the Metro Tunnel Creative Program is about to find out just how diverse a community we have.

Victorians from all walks of life are invited to take part in a new photographic series, *101 Victorians*, which will exhibit online later this year as part of PHOTO 2022, the nation's biggest photography event.

The project is inspired by award-winning British artist Jenny Lewis and her *One Hundred Years* project, which features stories and portraits of residents from Hackney, UK, covering every year from birth to 100 in chronological order.

In a similar style and with Lewis's permission, *101 Victorians* will be a snapshot of people from ages 0 to 100 from all across Victoria. The project is accepting submissions from Victorian residents of any age, with no photographic training or experience required – a mobile phone photo will do!

You might choose to photograph a family member, old friend, colleague or neighbour – someone who will feel comfortable being photographed and sharing a few words about their life.

"Victoria has an incredibly diverse



population," Metro Tunnel Creative Program engagement manager Sarah Robins said.

"Almost half of our community was born overseas or one or more of their parents were born overseas."

"We were inspired by Jenny Lewis's project to take a look at the extraordinary make-up of our community."

Participants can nominate a subject's age,

from zero to 100, and submit a corresponding photo portrait and quote from their subject at 101victorians.com.au.

Submission opportunities are limited, as there will only be one photo entry allocated per age. The final selection of 101 photographs will exhibit in an online gallery concurrently with Lewis's *One Hundred Years*, showing at PHOTO 2022 from April 29 to May 22.

Miss First Nation portraits

To celebrate the 2022 Midsumma Festival, the Metro Tunnel is showing photo portraits of Miss First Nation 2021 contestants at its outdoor galleries in the city.

In May 2021 Melbourne's YIRRAMBOI festival hosted Miss First Nation, Australia's only national competition for First Nations drag entertainers. Photographer Joseph Mayers captured portraits of contestants running in the Miss Photogenic category, using a replica tunnel at Holmesglen TAFE's Victorian Tunnelling Centre as the backdrop.

See the portraits of Lady Gargles, Estelle, Karma Bites, Stone Motherless Cold, Peaches and 2021 Miss First Nation winner Cerulean near Metro Tunnel construction sites at Franklin St and Scott Alley from January 23 until February 28.

The exhibition is presented by the Metro Tunnel Creative Program in collaboration with YIRRAMBOI and Midsumma festivals ●

For more information:
metrotunnel.vic.gov.au

Happy New Year, inner-city locals

As your local MP, I am thrilled to be able to contribute to the Hyperlocal News.



▲ Adam Bandt.

Photo: Murray Enders.

The pandemic has impacted us all, and fundamentally changed our city, but it doesn't all have to be for the worse.

We need to rebuild our community, not just our economy. Recovering from the pandemic gives us the opportunity to tackle the long-term problems our country faces, if we're prepared to invest in nation-building, planet-saving projects.

I want to protect what we love about Melbourne. That's why the Greens have a plan to revitalise our city, with rent reductions for innovative and creative businesses and steps to protect liveability.

Ensuring we keep Melbourne liveable is just one of the challenges we face as a community.

I write this as school is about to go back, and there's still no national plan to keep kids safe at school. Teachers are buying air purifiers and ventilators.

The Morrison Government has messed this up. They have abandoned the people of Melbourne.

They haven't abandoned their mates, their donors, or the big corporations and billionaires. But they abandoned us.

Despite some of the toughest years we've ever lived through, with wages growth flatlining and the cost of living going up, many big corporations are now making record profits, often off the back of public handouts.

Thankfully, there's an election coming up soon. And this time, I think Scott Morrison is in trouble.

This election, we are going to kick Scott Morrison out, and, with any luck, the Greens will hold the balance of power.

When I was first elected in Melbourne, we made history by putting the Greens in the balance of power, securing world-leading legislation to tackle climate change, getting dental into Medicare for 3.4 million kids and securing massive investments in the Melbourne community.

This time, if we find ourselves in the balance of power, we want to make the billionaires and big corporations pay their fair share of tax, so we can invest in the things that ensure everyone can live a good life.

We'll tackle the housing unaffordability crisis, by building and offering renters, first home buyers and people locked out of the housing market new, good-quality homes, in the areas they want to live in, for \$300,000. This is part of our plan to build a million new public housing homes over 20 years to end homelessness, while also strengthening renters' rights.

We'll finish what we started and push to get dental and mental health into Medicare for everyone. And we'll create thousands of jobs rolling out renewables to fight the climate crisis and end coal and gas.

Melbourne's values of compassion and equality have helped lead the country before, and this election they're set to do it again.

Please stay safe, look after each other and, if you need any assistance, please contact me ●

Contact Adam Bandt:

adam.bandt.mp@aph.gov.au or phone 9417 0772

CARLTON HISTORY GROUP

Melbourne's historic cemetery

During its 170 years of operation, the Melbourne General Cemetery in Carlton has become the final resting place of many of the important figures of Victoria's and Australia's colonial and later history, including seven Premiers of Victoria and several Prime Ministers of Australia. However, the managing of the cemetery by its trustees has been a source of considerable controversy.

When it was first established in 1850, the Melbourne General Cemetery was a very up-to-date institution for its time. Its 106 acres were carefully divided into areas for each of the main religious groups. Unlike traditional churchyards, it was intended to have a park-like atmosphere with open areas and lots of ornamental trees and shrubs, rotundas and rockeries. In its heyday in the late 19th century, the cemetery was a pleasant place to stroll on a Saturday afternoon.

But soon the need to find more burial spaces for an ever-increasing population undermined these good intentions and the result was an overcrowded and neglected cemetery. The city's expanding population demanded more burial space, and the early concept of a park-like cemetery gave way to the need to find more and more burial sites. Gradually the lawns and open areas, and even some of the winding paths, were used to accommodate graves.

By 1904, just 50 or so years after it was opened, the place was full and the sale of graves was stopped, although burials in already sold sites continued. In the decades that followed, the ongoing costs of maintenance with no income from sale of sites put pressure on the limited financial resources of the cemetery, and a long period of neglect occurred. It became very run-down and there was widespread vandalism and theft of brass decorations.

However, in 1927 the overcrowded and run-down cemetery was reopened. An area in the south-west of the cemetery that had been a formal entry drive, complete with cast-iron gate and stone gatehouse (see photo) was closed and

► Melbourne crowds flock to see the funeral of a soldier accidentally killed during the Queen's Birthday review in 1871 by an explosion of a mine. The procession is entering the original gate of the cemetery on its western side. Princes Park is to the right of the illustration. (Photo: State Library Victoria).



THE FUNERAL OF THE LATE CORPORAL J. C. ALEXANDER, VICTORIAN ENGINEER.—SEE PAGE 122.



▲ The original gate and gatehouses on the western side of the cemetery facing Princes Park in 1880. These were demolished in the 1930s and reconstructed in modified form on the southern boundary in College Crescent. (Photo: D. McDonald, State Library Victoria).

made available for new graves. The wide formal driveway was done away with, and the entrance gate and gatehouse moved to where they are now, on the southern boundary on College Crescent. A new administrative building and residence was built there in 1934-35 using the stone from the demolished former gatekeeper's cottage.

By the 1940s, all this new ground was also used up and the trustees were resorting to filling in roadways and footpaths with more graves. From the 1950s to the 1970s the cemetery sold old 19th century pauper graves for reuse as private plots. Although somewhat unethical, this was in fact lawful, as a pauper burial did not bestow a legal claim on the land. What was more dubious, however, was the reselling of plots that had been sold many years before but had remained unused. In the 1960s and 1970s it got even worse. The trustees began covering over very old gravesites with earth and reselling them to unsuspecting migrant families as burial plots. So flagrant were these abuses that in 1978 a government inquiry was held, the result of which was that the trustees were forced to resign, and criminal charges were laid against some staff members.

In 1980 the running of the cemetery was handed over to a private company, the Springvale Necropolis, which has been able to generate revenue by selling plots for cremated ashes, and by building three mausoleums that are very popular with the Italian community in particular. Mausoleums contain above ground burials, which were illegal in Victoria until a few years ago. But migrant groups, particularly the Italian community lobbied to have them built ●



Jeff Atkinson
PRESIDENT CARLTON COMMUNITY HISTORY GROUP
JEFFANN@BIGPOND.NET.AU

Quiz



- In which US state was pop star Britney Spears (pictured) born?
- Parkville is home to which global biotechnology company?
- Melbourne Zoo recently announced that three endangered animals have fallen pregnant. What sort of animals are they?
- Which 2021 film features married couple Jesse Plemons and Kirsten Dunst as husband and wife?
- In 1966, students and a teacher at Westall High School, Victoria, claimed to see what in the sky?
- Collingwood played Carlton in Round 1 of the AFLW on January 9. Where did they play?
- Which species of monkey is the largest?
- Which tennis star was recently locked up at the Park Hotel?
- Where was poet Mahmoud Darwish born?
- Who was the first transgender artist to be nominated for a Grammy?
- Which local cricket team has its home ground at Poplar Oval in Parkville?
- One of East Melbourne's top rated pubs, The Tippler & Co., is located on which street?

QUIZ SOLUTIONS

- Mississippi 2. CSL 3. Elephants 4. The Power of the Dog 5. A UFO 6. Ikon Park 7. Mandrills 8. Novak Djokovic 9. Palestine 10. Sophie Xeon 11. The Royal Park Reds 12. Wellington Parade

5x5

No. 008

Insert the missing letters to make 10 words – five reading across the grid and five reading down.

S		A		S
	A		O	
O		E		A
	E		U	
Y		K		L

SOLUTIONS

ACROSS: TALON, OMEGA, RECUR, YOKEL, DOWN: STORY, CAMBO, ATLECK, ROGUE, SNARL.

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Feb, 2022

Sudoku

No. 008

Fill in the blank cells using the numbers from 1 to 9. Each number can only appear once in each row, column and 3x3 block

EASY

			2	1	7		5	
4			5					
8				9				3
9	2		3				7	1
		6		5	8			
5	4				1		9	6
3				7				2
					8			9
	6		4	3	2			

HARD

3			2			7		9
	9	7						
	5		8			6		4
					8	2		
			1	4	5			
		6	9					
9	4			3			6	
					4	7		
2	3			1				8

SOLUTIONS

EASY

9	8	1	2	3	4	6	9	7
6	3	7	8	9	1	4	5	2
2	4	5	6	7	8	1	3	9
9	6	8	1	2	3	4	5	7
4	7	2	5	6	9	7	8	3
1	5	7	9	8	3	2	4	6
3	2	4	1	5	6	9	7	8
7	9	6	5	8	3	4	2	1
8	4	5	2	1	7	4	6	3

HARD

8	9	6	1	7	4	3	9	2
3	7	4	6	2	9	1	8	5
2	9	1	3	8	5	4	7	6
7	2	5	2	3	6	9	8	7
9	8	3	5	3	6	9	6	8
1	6	8	2	7	6	8	3	4
4	3	5	7	6	8	9	7	1
1	5	2	3	1	4	8	2	6
6	7	9	6	3	7	8	3	9
3	4	8	2	5	6	2	1	9

Wordfind

Theme: Breakfast

The leftover letters will spell out a secret message.

O	R	A	N	G	E	J	U	I	C	E
M	A	T	E	G	D	I	R	R	O	P
U	N	T	E	N	A	R	B	E	R	T
E	I	W	M	A	E	A	T	E	N	E
S	F	Y	K	E	G	G	S	F	F	F
L	F	N	O	C	A	B	O	F	L	F
I	U	A	K	G	A	L	U	O	A	U
E	M	H	A	M	H	N	P	C	K	B
W	A	F	F	L	E	U	S	U	E	L
K	L	I	M	E	P	E	R	C	S	O
C	R	O	I	S	S	A	N	T	P	X

- | | |
|------------|--------------|
| BACON | MILK |
| BRAN | MUESLI |
| BUFFET | MUFFIN |
| COFFEE | OATMEAL |
| CORNFLAKES | ORANGE JUICE |
| CREPE | PORRIDGE |
| CROISSANT | SNACK |
| EAT | SOUP |
| EGGS | TEA |
| HAM | WAFFLE |
| LOX | YOGHURT |

Secret message: Wake up.

Crossword

No. 008

ACROSS

- Japanese warrior (7)
- German city (7)
- Last (5)
- Related to government (9)
- Away from the centre (8)
- Covered (6)
- Concur (5)
- Government department leaders (9)
- Laziness (9)
- Outdoor area adjoining a house (5)
- Sweet liquid (6)
- Sleeplessness (8)
- Key maker (9)
- Famous Swiss children's book (5)
- Baked chocolate treat (7)
- Repetitive design (7)

DOWN

- Asphyxiation (11)
- Observed (9)
- Let go (7)
- Obstacle (10)

1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8
9						10								
11								12						13
								14						
15								16					17	
18						19						20		
21		22						23						
								24						
25													26	
27												28		

- High ground (4)
- Ways (7)
- Not edited (5)
- Hair product (3)
- Common joint injury (11)
- Traineeship (10)
- Vast (9)
- Middleman (7)
- Speaker of the word of God (7)
- Chocolate bean tree (5)
- Citrus fruit (4)
- Science room (3)

SOLUTION

N	H	I	L	V	E	E	I	N	M	O	R	B			
O	A	E	H	I	L	S	C	H	O	L					
L	S	D	S	L	I	V									
V	I	N	M	O	S	N	I	R	A	L	E	N			
O	E	R	E	P	R	I	T								
O	I	L	I	E	C	O	N	E	R	O	D	N	I		
L	X														
V	A	S													
T															
D	E	I	S	I	T	I	N	I	T						
I	O	I	I	S	O										
D	E	L	O	C	O	L	O								
N	H	I	L	S	C	H	O	L							
S	H	L	O	P	E	R									
E	N	E	I	T	O	P									
B	N	E	I	M	E	G									
G															

Codeword

No. 008

23	7	23		1	24	22	6	19	22	1	11	23
14		5		24		24		22		14		11
3	19	18	11	15	24	18	12	23		T	19	11
3		19				15		19		23		12
18	11	14	18	23		14	21	21	18	11	23	23
24				2		5		19		5		
22	19	7	17	16	23		20	24	23	11	9	H
		11		19		9		16				24
11	22	21	24	18	23	11		23	19	8	11	23
10		19				T		21		11		T
T	19	1		19	18	14	23	1	19	17	4	11
18		14		22		22		14		18		4
14	4	4	19	13	14	T	24	18		14	21	23

SOLUTIONS

L	H	O	N	J	D	I	R	B	R	I	A	W	U	B	R	A	V
23	22	23	23	22	12	22	21	18	18	18	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
23	22	23	23	22	12	22	21	18	18	18	11	11	11	11	11	11	11

1	14
2	15
3	16
4	17
5	18
6	19
7	20
8	21
9	22
10	23
11	24
12	25
13	26

9-Letter

No. 008

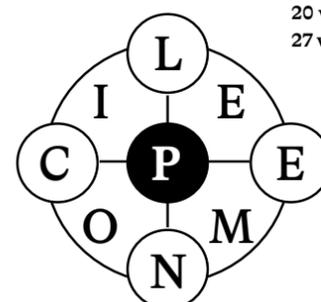
Today's Focus:

13 words: Good

20 words: Very good

27 words: Excellent

Using the nine letters in the grid, how many words of four letters or more can you list? The centre letter must be included and each letter may only be used once. No colloquial or foreign words. No capitalised nouns, apostrophes or plural words ending in "s".



SOLUTIONS

Reference: Collins Concise English Dictionary

hip, clomp, clop, compel, compile, cops, elope, epic, impel, limp, lope, mope, open, optine, peck, peen, pence, penile, peon, piece, pile, pine, poem, pole, polemic, police, POLICEMEN

La Mama剧场重建开放

2021年12月10日，由维州创意产业部长Danny Pearson和墨尔本市长 Sally Capp主持了卡尔顿La Mama剧场重新开放的正式仪式。这个剧场三年前在一场令人震惊的大火中烧毁，后来又重建，并焕发了活力，这一天大约有300名剧场爱好者前来参加了这个仪式。

Carol Saffer

剧场正式开放后，War-Rak/Banksia艺术节开幕，这个以Banksia花(一种大火后更强壮的花)命名为期三天的节日，由戏剧、诗歌、舞蹈和音乐表演组成，是对未来的一种预示。

2月8日星期二，剧场的2022年第一个表演季上，将上演仲夏节(Midsumma)节目，由Milly Cooper和Ben Jamieson共同设计和表演，描述有关爱、失去和奉献的故事。剧场艺术总监Liz Jones期待届时的观

众将比开放仪式那天更多。

Jones女士说：“我们从2月8日的Midsumma仲夏节开始，在接下来的三个月里，我们将有大约25场演出。”

她说，在此期间，剧场空间几乎每天晚上都会被使用，剧院表演与音乐、诗歌朗诵和歌舞表演交织在一起，如La Mama Poetica、La Mama Musica或La Mama Cinematica。

她笑着说：“我们非常忙”。

这次增加节目安排的原因是，过去两年中几乎所有的演出都因为COVID疫情的封锁



而被取消了。

她说：“我保证所有被取消的演出都会在La Mama剧场上演一季，所以我现在正在将三年的工作计划变成一年的计划。”

新剧场的排练空间、票房和楼上办公室，以及修复后的原1800年代红砖大楼内的剧院空间和绿化室，今年将迎来演出旺季。



丑陋涂鸦 充斥街道

一位东墨尔本居民别无选择，只能自己采取行动，在她的住宅区附近，拿着油漆刷和罐子，花时间快速涂刷街道上的涂鸦。

Kaylah-Joelle Baker

这位不愿透露姓名的居民认为，这个问题是由于东部高速公路(Eastern Freeway)上的涂鸦没有被清除，所有涂鸦者现被引向Hoddle街、Punt路和Victoria Parade大道，在东墨尔本的街道上进进出出。

这位居民指出：“东部高速公路的涂鸦问题一直是一个持续存在的问题，现在又出现在东墨尔本了。要降低涂鸦现象的唯一方法是在涂鸦出现时就清除，如果放任不管，它会像癌症一样转移并变得更糟。”

“我们在东墨尔本遇到的问题是我们的房子很旧，而且很难从一些表面上清除涂鸦，因为会损坏墙面。”

这位居民并不是第一次表达其担忧，自2017年以来，她向墨尔本市政、维州路

政局 VicRoads和CitiPower提出了投诉，但涂鸦问题几乎没有解决。

她说：“问题越来越严重，市议会一直说我们在排队等待解决，但不能告诉我们排在哪个位置。我们已经在这份名单上等候了很长时间了。”

这位东墨尔本居民现在每周都不得不清除家门口的涂鸦，与许多其他房屋受害者的居民一样，她要求墨尔本市政承担责任。

在过去的几年里，涂鸦问题一直是市议会非常关注的议题，墨尔本市政每年拨款近100万澳元用于清除涂鸦。

就在去年，卡尔顿被认为是1亿澳元的墨尔本城市复兴基金的主要关注领域，其重点是清除店面装饰、桥梁和建筑外墙上的涂鸦。

市长Sally Capp在评论当时的积极举措时表示，市政正在“尽全力试图清除位于较高方位上的涂鸦”。

但是卡尔顿涂鸦的闪电式出现让东墨尔本的居民感觉他们的住宅区域已经“陷入困境”。



餐饮业再受疫情重创

市中心餐饮业表示，他们正在为生存而奋斗，因为这波Omicron疫情引发了员工短缺，还造成许多消费者不出家门，类似以前的封锁状况。

Brendan Rees

由于大量员工(其中许多是病例密切接触者)在家隔离，许多饭店、咖啡馆和快餐店要么暂时关闭，要么缩短营业时间。

位于卡尔顿Lygon街标志性意大利餐厅Tiamo的业主Fab Succi表示，由于人手短缺，在1月初被迫关闭餐厅一周。

他说：“我们真的很忙，但不幸的是，事情来得突然，而且是非常不可预测的。”

“我们无法理解的是对密切接触者定义和隔离规定的不断改变。”

“政府正在尽最大努力解决问题，但事情变化得太快，他们似乎是一边在做，一边应付，非常艰难。”

Succi先生家族经营的这家餐厅已有40年了，他告诉本报，尽管这次疫情带来了前所未有的挑战，但我们还是需要想办法让人们出来享受生活，同时也要谨慎小心。”

“人们就是感到害怕。封锁之后，我认为人们是一次被蛇咬，三年怕井绳了。”

在Carlton拥有包括MOFO burgers在内的四个餐馆的业主George Seoud说，该区域更是人流稀少。

他说：“如果让我回到交付全额租金，那我就不得不离开了，因为我们不可能维持下去。”他补充说，目前别无选择，只能暂时关闭其他三家门店，而MOFO Burgers刚刚能让他维持生计。

州政府最近扩大了对商业租赁的减免计划，允许因新冠疫情而陷入困境的中小型企业推迟租金，但对于像Seoud先生这样的业主来说，需要更多的帮助。

新公房优先考虑50岁以上的无家可归者

卡尔顿(Carlton) 50岁以上的无家可归者将受到优先考虑住进新公共房屋，这是维州政府大型公共房屋建设计划的一部分。

Kaylah-Joelle Baker

这个去年12月12日宣布的新一年开发卡尔顿北部计划项目，耗资4000万澳元，

旨在帮助有需要援助的人，也是维多利亚振兴复苏计划的一部分。

鉴于市中心无家可归者情况的严重性，特别公房和援助机构Wintringham已经开始制定卡尔顿公房的计划，并期待今年就可以使用。

Wintringham的代理首席执行官Michael Deschepper指出“照顾、援助和支持这些客户的重要性，因为没有其他人来做这件事”。

他说：“我们非常兴奋，我们在援助老年弱势群体方面的专业知识得到了政府的认可。”

“特别令人高兴的是，整栋大楼将专门分配给正在经受无家可归或易受无家可归的老年人，特别是在政府无家可归者计划中的妇女，以及维州公房登记等候名单上的人。”

这座位于卡尔顿有62个单元的综合大楼是政府资助53亿澳元大型公房建筑计划

的一部分，该计划将为维州提供超过12000套公共住房。

在这座公共住房综合楼中，至少一半的新房将提供给50岁以上的女性。

住房部长Richard Wynne说：“退休金余额低、职业生涯中断和薪酬性别差距都导致55岁以上的女性成为无家可归者中增长最快的群体。”

What's On: February

Community Calendar



NGV Architecture Commission: Pond[er]

National Gallery of Victoria

Open Feb through March 10am to 5pm

An outdoor installation, offering visitors a pink pond to wade in and reflect on their relationship with the environment.



Melbourne Magic Show

Melbourne Marriot Hotel, Lonsdale St

Two performances each Friday night from February 4 to March 18

Local modern-day magician Luke Hocking fuses illusion and mind reading into a unique theatrical magic experience.

Farmers Market
 Carlton North Primary School
 First and third Saturday each month
 Stalls selling fresh produce on primary school grounds.



Makers Market at The District
 The District Docklands
 February 27, 11am to 4pm and March 27, 11am to 4pm
 Live entertainment and colourful market stalls showcasing art, craft, jewellery, fashion, homewares, gifts, plus home-made and homegrown produce.



Childbirth education from the Royal Women's Hospital
 Online
 Wednesday nights. 6pm-9pm
 Childbirth education via online livestreaming.

Still in my Mind
 Melbourne Museum
 Until May 15, 2022
Still in My Mind is a multi-faceted, multi-media exhibition exploring richly diverse notions of identity, home and connection to country.

VAS TEACHERS' EXHIBITION '22
 Victorian Artists Society, East Melbourne
 February 8 to April 10
 This exhibition showcases the immense talents of the VAS teachers who work and educate in a range of mediums, including watercolour, oil, pastel and drawing.

Yo CiTY Connect Flix and Chill
 Piazza Italia, Argyle Square, Carlton
 Saturday nights in February 5pm to 11pm
 A family-friendly, pop-up picnic-style movie screening of films by local and international black, indigenous and people of colour (BIPOC) filmmakers.

Business Directory

Cinema

THE KINO
 The Kino, 45 Collins Street, Melbourne
 (03) 9650 2100

EAST MELBOURNE LIBRARY AND COMMUNITY CENTRE
 122 GEORGE ST, EAST MELBOURNE
 TELEPHONE: 03 9658 9600
 EMAIL: LIBRARY@MELBOURNE.VIC.GOV.AU

ELLEN SANDELL
 STATE MP FOR MELBOURNE
 (03) 9328 4637 office@ellensandell.com
 146 Peel Street North Melbourne VIC 3051

Restaurant

Il Gambero
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 W: www.ilgambero.com.au
 E: info@ilgambero.com.au

Dental

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Interior Design

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 10 MAGISTRATE WALK EAST MELBOURNE
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School

HAILEYBURY
 www.haileybury.vic.edu.au

Library

KATHLEEN SYME LIBRARY AND COMMUNITY CENTRE
 251 FARADAY STREET, CARLTON
 TELEPHONE: 03 9658 7310
 EMAIL: KATHLEENSYMECENTRE@MELBOURNE.VIC.GOV.AU

Politician

ADAM BANDT
 FEDERAL MEMBER FOR MELBOURNE
 142 Johnston Street, Fitzroy
 (03) 9417 0772 adam.bandt.mp@aph.gov.au

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