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New 40km/h speed limit rolls out in East Melbourne
Photo by Murray Enders

In a bid to improve safety for all road users and pedestrians, a new 40km/h speed limit will be rolled out from mid-September which was approved by the Department of Transport (DoT) and supported by East Melbourne residents. *Full story on page 3.*

Council knocks back plans to redevelop a Carlton “eyesore” after citing “significant issues”

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*
PLANNING

An “eyesore” building in Carlton will remain empty and graffiti-laden after the City of Melbourne rejected a planning proposal to build a tower and apartments.

The former Cancer Council building at the corner of Rathdowne and Victoria streets has been left abandoned and, according to locals, has spoiled the gateway to the World Heritage Environs Area (WHEA) of the Royal Exhibition Building and Carlton Gardens.

However, an \$80 million redevelopment proposed for the neglected building, which was lodged by Royal Garden Manor Pty Ltd in May this year, was knocked back by the council for failing to meet a range of requirements including an acceptable overall height.

The application proposed to demolish the existing building and build a structure consisting of seven three-storey townhouses, a six-storey corner podium, and a 13-storey tower containing 77 apartments.

The Bates Smart-designed development included two open space terraces and a ground-floor library, as well as a pool, gym, yoga, and steam room.

But the council said the application, which attracted 63 objections, was inconsistent with the Melbourne Planning Scheme, and identified “significant issues which needed to be resolved”.

This included an unjustified overall height (proposed 46-metre height in the Carlton height control zone of eight to 16 metres), an unacceptable podium height, an unreasonable impact on Carlton’s character and heritage, the impact on the World Her-

itage Environs, and a poor layout of open space.

The council issued a notice of refusal on September 9, which outlined the key changes needed for the application to be supported, including:

- Reduction of the tower from 13 storeys to seven storeys
- Reduction of the podium from six storeys to three to four storeys
- Significant reduction of the 187 car spaces
- Improved open space (functionality and solar access)

“The City of Melbourne would welcome amended plans through the VCAT process in accordance with the clear and consistent guidance provided to the applicant,” it said in a statement.

The site falls within the WHEA which protects the significant views and vistas to the Royal Exhibition Building and Carlton Gardens. This also weighs heavily on any decision made with planning applications considered in the precinct.

Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece said the council would welcome an amended application which addressed the issues identified by its urban planners.

“The former Cancer Council building on Rathdowne St is one the great eyesores of the city,” Cr Reece said.

“While it was heartening to see a proposal to redevelop this site, the application failed to meet a range of requirements laid out in the Melbourne Planning Scheme – including height, open space and parking.”

“Melbourne must aim higher to protect our streets and world class heritage precincts from overdevelopment. This is a UNESCO listed world heritage-listed precinct, it is important we get it right.”

Continued on page 10.

Sky rail near Parkville parkland sparks community concern

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*
PLANNING

Parkville residents have sounded the alarm over an elevated rail option being proposed for the removal of the Park St level crossing near public parkland.

Eight level crossings are slated for removal along the Upfield line which would see a sky rail built, covering an entire section from Albion St, Brunswick to Park St, Parkville.

Designs for the elevated rail will start early next year and will include community consultation, with all level crossings to be removed by 2027, the state government said in its announcement on September 19.

However, Parkville Association president Rob Moore

said while the removal of level crossings was welcomed, the visual impact of a sky rail at Park St would be a “major concern”, as would its impact on the flora and fauna in nearby parkland.

“We’ll be very interested in seeing the plans because we can’t see how it won’t ruin the landscape from Royal Park and we can’t see how it won’t affect the wildlife in Royal Park,” he said.

“It’s on the edge of the golf course as well so the whole topography is very difficult.”

“The other thing which I think would be a major concern to residents of The Avenue is the fact there’s apartment blocks there which are relatively close to the station and certainly there will be more noise.”

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Gathering data in Royal Park to update masterplan

WORDS BY *Carol Saffer*
COUNCIL AFFAIRS

The City of Melbourne has collected, stored and analysed data captured by sensors in Carlton's Argyle Square since 2020.

These insights, which show trends and patterns of use within the Square, help support the maintenance of the area and can inform future park usage and design.

The Nature Playground in Royal Park is the latest outdoor area in the city for data collection, with sensors installed in August.

This award-winning playground is very popular with a high number of visitors and users and requires maintenance throughout the year to keep it in good condition.

Acting Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece said, "We know Melburnians love their parks, gardens and open spaces and that's why we're working hard to understand how we can make them even better."

"Through important data collection, we can identify key trends such as peak park use time, pedestrian foot traffic, rubbish collection and even which park benches are the most popular."

The last redesign of the park was in 1984. As a valued site for meeting, exercising, recreation and commuting, the council planners and designers will use the latest technology to understand how future redesign can further support users.

Installation of the first five sensors in the playground occurred in August 2022.

When someone uses a sensor-attached piece of equipment, the movement created from playing will be stored as data and kept as counts over time.

Another sensor that detects pedestrian and bike movement is due for installation on the pedestrian bridge in the park later this year. This data will help understand the flow of users.

These sensors will help identify the busiest times and days for popular play equipment, the typical usage of park equipment before



▲ A basket swing at Royal Park.

maintenance is required, how much use the pedestrian bridge gets during peak play periods, and other key information.

As well as supporting park planners, designers and maintenance crews, the data can also empower the community to have more involvement in shaping shared community spaces.

The Friends of Royal Park expressed concern about this seemingly piecemeal approach to the Royal Park Masterplan review.

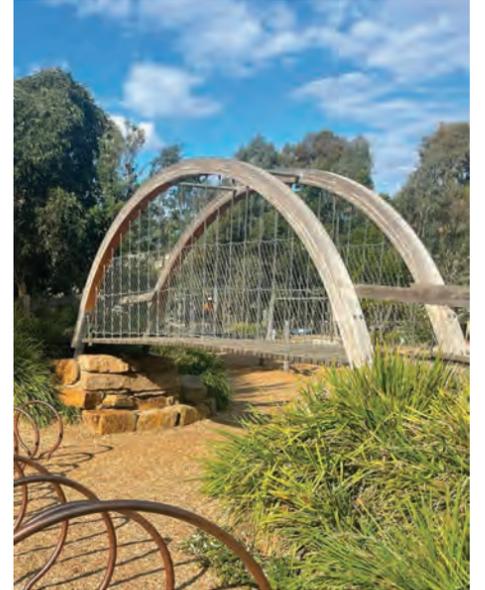
On enquiry to the City of Melbourne about the sensors and the consultation process, the Friends were advised that the council's smart city team installed the sensors and the locations were in consultation with its open space planning.

Friends of Royal Park secretary Kay Oddie said, "This forms part of the background analysis work being undertaken over the next 12 months to inform the review of the masterplan."

"The council is also undertaking intercept surveys in the park from September to December that will provide data from 200 random park users," she said.

"[The council] intends to discuss the data and its implications with the Royal Park groups as part of the review process."

Secretary of Protectors of Public Lands Victoria Inc. Michael Petit said, "like other



▲ Royal Park bridge.

community groups involved in the park we welcome a clarification from council on how these sensors will be used in the context of the ongoing multi-faceted review of the master plan."

"[So far] the emphasis seems to be on people participation in the park."

"It is equally important to remember that this is one of only three 'dark parks' in Melbourne because of the need to protect and maintain wildlife habitats."

"The park has experienced many intrusions and it is essential that its original purpose as a dark park is maintained in this process." ●



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New 40km/h speed limit rolls out in East Melbourne

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*
SAFETY & SECURITY

The City of Melbourne is lowering the speed limit across several roads in East Melbourne in a bid to improve safety for all road users and pedestrians.

A new 40km/h speed limit will be rolled out from mid-September which was approved by the Department of Transport (DoT) and supported by East Melbourne residents.

The speed limit will be reduced on all roads that border Wellington Pde, Spring St, Victoria Pde, Hoddle St, and Nicholson St – which surrounds the Fitzroy Gardens and Treasury Gardens.

The initiative is part of the council's Transport Strategy 2030, in which it will work with the DoT to achieve a "consistent maximum speed limit of 40 km/h" on local roads across inner Melbourne, "delivering changes at a neighbourhood scale".

Electronic traffic signs will be displayed at different locations to advise motorists of the new speed limit.

Drivers may also notice yellow and black "New Speed Limit" signs for at least six months after the launch.

"Lower speed limits reduce the likelihood of crashes by reducing the vehicle stopping distance, giving all road users more time to identify and react to hazards and reducing the likelihood of people losing control of their vehicles," the council said.

The 40km/h limits have already been introduced across most of the municipality, including Domain Parklands (2017), South Yarra (2017), Hoddle Grid (2014) and Parkville (2013).

A new 40km/h speed limit is expected to be rolled out in North and West Melbourne during 2023.

The East Melbourne Group's planning convenor Greg Bisinella said residents were pleased with the outcome, after being actively involved in consultation.

"For several years the EMG with Susan



Henderson and now Jen Owen [vice president and amenities convenor] have been working to support the implementation of this important initiative," he said.

"We do see this as a way of keeping our members and residents safe and ensuring that the neighbourhood remains a quiet residential place to live."

Mr Bisinella said they were also pleased they did need to "navigate our way through the issue of traffic calming measures" like speed humps, road narrowing, and bike lanes.

"Our focus now turns to compliance and how the 40km/h zones will be policed to ensure that motorists comply with the limits."

The news was also welcomed by locals on social media after a photo was posted of the

new speed limit.

"The way people turn off Hoddle St and speed down the side streets is a bit scary sometimes. We are almost on a corner and trying to get the kids in and out of the car is a bit hair-raising at times," one wrote.

"Hopefully next will be 50km on Wellington Parade! Bit scary crossing there sometimes," another wrote. ●



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Council rejects application for Hartcourt building in Parkville

WORDS BY *Sean Car*
PLANNING

Parkville residents are rejoicing after the City of Melbourne refused a permit application for a controversial three-storey medical clinic, which would have seen the intra-war red brick Hartcourt building at the corner of Royal Parade and Morrah St demolished.

It comes after more than 50 residents rallied in front of the building in June to oppose the plans by applicant Sinclair Dermatology, with more than 150 locals having put their name to a petition urging the council to reject the proposal.

Despite the building not having any heritage protection, residents argued that the building was in the South Parkville heritage precinct and that the proposal was therefore out of character with the area.

Among other issues raised included height, scale and use, with parking, vehicle access and traffic management in the precinct of primary concern to what's almost an entirely residential community, with Hartcourt one of just four commercial properties in South Parkville.

And on September 2, the council's planning department issued the applicant with a notice of refusal to grant a permit based on the proposal's strategic context, use, heritage and built form, as well as car parking and access.

"The proposed scale and intensity of the use in the proposed location is contrary to its strategic planning context as a stable residential area and therefore fails to achieve the relevant policies of the Melbourne Planning Scheme," the decision read.

"The intensity of the use and development results in unacceptable traffic impacts from an amenity perspective to the surrounding streets and in particular Jageurs Lane."

Sinclair Dermatology was contacted for comment. ●

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Flower and Garden Show issued new licence for Carlton Gardens, but heritage concerns remain

WORDS BY *Kaylah-Joelle Baker and Sean Car*
COUNCIL AFFAIRS

City of Melbourne councillors have given the all clear for the Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show (MIFGS) to continue to be held in Carlton Gardens despite continued concerns from heritage groups over the event's "damaging impact" on the World Heritage-listed site.

At the time of publishing, councillors were expected to issue a three-year licence (2024-26) to the event's operator Flower and Garden Show Limited with an option for a further three-year extension (2027-29) by mutual agreement at its September 27 council meeting.

The item had originally been scheduled for consideration at the council's August 30 meeting but was withdrawn from the agenda at the last minute by its CEO Justin Hanney after it was found the council had not discussed the licence renewal with heritage groups as promised.

At that meeting, Mr Hanney said that a submission from the Friends of Royal Exhibition Building and Carlton Gardens had "indicated that I'd made a commitment" in April 2019 regarding their engagement in the process, and the item was subsequently withdrawn for "procedural fairness".

"In looking into this matter further it's now clear that engaging in a meeting prior to the council making any further decisions hasn't been undertaken, and it should," Mr Hanney said.

A follow-up meeting took place on September 14 between City of Melbourne and FREBCG, Protectors of Public Lands Victoria Inc., Royal Historical Society and the National Trust of Victoria, during which those groups requested that the proposed licence renewal be delayed.

While the subsequent report from council management tabled at its September 27 meeting stated these groups felt it was "premature to



▲ Images taken at Carlton Gardens before, during, and after MIFGS, and submitted by heritage groups to the council.

issue a new licence", it noted prior stakeholder consultation had been supportive of holding events in the gardens as part of the Carlton Gardens Master Plan.

"Acknowledging there are a variety of community views on this matter, it is also noted that the Heritage Master Plan recognises the principle of using Carlton Gardens South for appropriate larger events," the report stated.

But Protectors of Public Lands Victoria Inc., president Fiona Bell told *Inner City News* that heritage groups had argued that the decision be delayed until the outcome of the current World Heritage Management Plan Review for the Royal Exhibition Building and Carlton Gardens was completed.

"The Royal Exhibition Building and the hard surfaces are a lovely place to showcase the garden show as it is a fabulous World Heritage building, but we are very unhappy about having the Carlton Gardens being closed off and damaged," Ms Bell said. "[MIFGS] say they are all about not doing much damage, but we think they should be doing no damage at all because the gardens are World Heritage and so precious

and undervalued."

"We want a win-win situation because we want MIFGS to still be able to hold [the event] and show everything off, but at another location to save the Carlton Gardens from being spoiled and damaged."

Heritage groups had also called on the matter to be referred to the Federal Minister for the Environment and Water Tanya Plibersek under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999*, which requires anything causing damage to heritage sites to be brought to the Minister's attention.

Among the specific examples provided by Ms Bell was that MIFGS, and its set-up and take-down, was in violation of tree protection rules due to damage caused to surface roots and the grounds by concrete blocks, long spikes, heavy machinery and no matting where appropriate.

But in approving the event's licence extension "in light of exemplary performance over 26 years" council management noted that terms could be amended subject to any requirements arising from the World Heritage Management Plan.

"As the World Heritage Management Plan review process is still underway and unlikely to be complete before mid 2023, it should be noted that if there are any requirements arising from the review process which are not consistent with the licence clauses, the licence will be amended," the council report stated.

"The five-day event has taken place in the Royal Exhibition Building and Carlton Gardens South since the late 1990s. A major highlight of Melbourne's events program, it is a gated, ticketed event that attracts up to 270 exhibitors and vendors and 100,000 visitors."

"A heritage permit for the event and a pre- and post-occupancy event report are also required by Heritage Victoria. Although an event of the size of MIFGS has the potential to have a high impact on Carlton Gardens South, a review of test results and reports since 2005 shows that clear guidance, strict management and consistent onsite monitoring has served the site and exhibitors well, with no apparent cumulative impact on the heritage values of Carlton Gardens."

MIFGS did not respond to a request for comment before going to press. ●

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Johnny's Green Room above King & Godfree



Elk has opened a new store in Lygon Street

Take a trip to Melbourne's little Italy in Carlton - where the coffee is free-flowing, and the fashion is one-of-a-kind.

Nestled amid Victorian heritage streets, and Carlton's celebrated parks and gardens, you'll find a vibrant and thriving neighbourhood of niche treasures to uncover.

From family-owned pizza restaurants to Scandinavian homewares, sustainable knits and gallery-worthy slow fashion - Carlton's attractions are as divinely diverse as its residents, 48 per cent of whom are born overseas.

This eclectic retail, entertainment and dining precinct - bustling with more than 1000 businesses - is fuelling Melbourne's recovery.

'Carlton is buzzing,' Luca Sbardella, President, Carlton Inc. traders association said.

'The pedestrian activity on Lygon Street regularly exceeds pre-pandemic levels, particularly after dark and around events, like the Melbourne Money dining scheme, showing the importance of these bounce-back initiatives.'

Carlton has a well-established reputation as a gastronomic destination, and its bespoke and bohemian stores have sparked intrigue for many years.

'We want to showcase this distinct Carlton offering,' Luca said.

'We're encouraging people back to rediscover their favourites, and introducing them to something new while they're here.'

Discover something new

Thanks to the City of Melbourne's \$2.6 million Shopfront Activation Program, there is no shortage of new experiences to be had in Carlton.

The program - jointly-funded by the City of Melbourne and the Victorian Government as part of the \$100 million Melbourne City Recovery Fund - is transforming empty shopfronts in the locale to see Carlton become a fashionista's dream destination.

In the past year, the neighbourhood has welcomed three new fashion designers - Elk, Van de Kooij and Aaron Fluck - alongside the quirky Karen's Diner and Italian-themed Biblioteca pop-up library.

'There is a real sense of collaboration amongst the new fashion entrants in the Lygon Street precinct,' said Jack Amies, Managing Director of The Place Agency - who manages negotiations for property acquisition and leasing in the area.

'The saying, 'businesses attract businesses' has never been more apt than what we are seeing in women's fashion in Carlton.'

Van der Kooij Designer and Director Natasha Veenhuizen is thrilled to transition from clicks to bricks, and test a retail store environment.

'Being supported through our transition from online to in-store has

allowed us to take a huge step further in building the Van der Kooij brand.

'We offer an intimate in-store experience which can't be replicated online, so it's fantastic to be able to connect with new and existing customers in this way.

Following lockdown, savvy retailers are adopting a more nuanced approach to retail promotion, experience and customer connection.

'Opening the doors to our first flagship store in Carlton has been an instrumental step in deepening the personal experience and connection with our clientele,' Aaron Fluck Designer and Director at Aaron Fluck said.

'It's exciting to see the Lygon Street precinct making a name for itself as Melbourne's newest fashion hub, and we're thrilled to be a part of it.'

For Marnie Goding, Creative Director and Co-founder of ELK, the Shopfront Activation Program has offered an opportunity to try out a new aspirational location for the brand.

'It has been an invaluable way for us to try before we buy into the Carlton market,' Marnie said.

'After the first three months and a fantastic response from the local community, we're planting permanent roots on Lygon.'

Make a date with Carlton

Creative spaces and pop-up ventures are just part of the colour and excitement enticing visitors to Carlton.

Alongside the Shopfront Activation Program, the Carlton business precinct association - Carlton Inc. - received a \$90,000 grant from the City of Melbourne to drive activity and support local businesses.

'This has been very welcome news for traders,' Phillip Mansour, Executive Officer, Carlton Inc. said.

'It will provide opportunities for networking and training, encourage visitation and local spending and has enabled us to curate a robust event line-up for the year ahead.'

Clear the calendar for an upcoming Melbourne Fashion Week activation in Argyle Square, and the Fringe Festival's iconic parade taking to Carlton's streets in October after a 20-year hiatus.

The Fringe Festival will involve the return of the Waiters Race, and the Lygon Street Block Party, which is supported through the Melbourne City Revitalisation Fund.

Celebrate Christmas in Carlton by dining out under the fairy lights as festive bonbons line the streets and a massive pop-up activation comes to Argyle Square.

'Carlton Inc. will also host the Kingpins Kutztums Christmas toy run in November, and our Christmas activities such as roving performers, and Carlton Gift Voucher giveaways in December.

'After the past two years we can't wait to welcome new and old faces to celebrate together,' Phillip said.



Fashion retailer Van der Kooij has transitioned from online to in-store



Aaron Fluck is one of three new fashion retailers in Lygon Street

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Digital divide at Carlton Housing Estate exposed in report

WORDS BY *Sean Car*
HOUSING

Over-priced internet, low-quality connection and opaque, substandard service were the overwhelming conclusions of a recent study into digital inequality at the Carlton Housing Estate.

The report by the University of Melbourne, titled *Understanding Digital Inequality – An Analysis of Unequal Connectivity in Carlton Housing Estate*, was funded by the Melbourne Social Equity Institute and the Australian Communications Consumer Action Network (ACCAN) and was carried out in partnership with the Carlton Community Network and the Combined Agencies for Digital Inclusion (CADI) network.

The study responded to anecdotal reports during the 2020 COVID-19 lockdowns that households at the estate were finding it challenging to engage in home-schooling and work from home due to the cost to maintain sufficient bandwidth and purchasing devices for all members of the household.

The study showed that access to reliable and sufficiently fast internet were “not a mere matter of affordability, but also of inconsistent accessibility, as public housing residents are offered a substandard service”.

Data collected from participants through surveys, focus groups and interviews revealed that residents were routinely forced to resort to “hotspotting” off mobile phones for work and home-schooling due to poor connection and that this came at an additional cost of data charges. Residents also reported that the customer service of internet providers was often “inaccessible and unresponsive” throughout the process, from installation to troubleshooting.

Dr Ellen van Holstein, one of the report's lead researchers, told *Inner City News* that residents were too often being “kept in the dark”

by internet providers about issues that were “general knowledge” among IT and housing staff. The insight that the internet signal is obstructed by the old concrete walls of the housing towers, for instance, was not shared with residents.

She said that as a result of not knowing what caused their internet to lag, residents were spending additional money on equipment such as modems and were opting to upgrade to more expensive data plans in an effort to improve speeds.

With 30 per cent of the estate's approximately 3500 residents reportedly living on less than \$300 per week and a pre-COVID unemployment rate of 48 per cent, she said such additional household costs “exacerbate existing inequalities”.

“In the end what we found is that, at the moment, there's very little accountability because it's a poorly regulated private market,” Dr van Holstein said.

“Internet providers can get away with offering incredibly low-quality connections with no sense of accountability in terms of whether that's actually the quality people could expect for what they're paying or not.”

According to Dr van Holstein, with Carlton Housing Estate reported to have a “slightly higher uptake of the NBN than other similar inner-city Melbourne public housing estates”, the findings of the report only represent the tip of the iceberg of what's a “systemic issue” in the public housing sector.

In a suite of recommendations, the report urges governments to set minimum quality standards and price settings which reflect that “many people are forced to use mobile data when the NBN fails”. The report also recommends the development of “not-for-profit alternatives” that would enable reliable and more affordable internet connections.

Researchers also recommend a stronger dialogue between residents and providers:

“Governments, internet companies and social housing providers should speak to people who find it hard to access the internet because the involvement of housing providers can help make sure that the internet works better inside social housing estates,” the report stated.

Because the study was conducted in collaboration with the Combined Agencies for Digital Inclusion (CADI) network, that is made up of various local community groups and the Cities of Yarra and Melbourne, the study had been able to inform advocacy for more equitable internet provision, Dr van Holstein said.

“Because of the connection between research and advocacy that's been done by that group [CADI], the topic ended up being tabled and discussed in parliament and has really become part of the agenda of a few parliamentarians. It's exciting to see the wheels starting to turn a little bit on this.”

“There's really some structural change that's needed that's not going to happen without some action from politicians and some minimum standards for what people should get for what they pay.”

One such politician – Greens MP for Melbourne Ellen Sandell – who has long advocated for digital equality in public housing, said it was “disappointing that in 2022” there were still barriers to people accessing the internet.

“The pandemic highlighted the importance of having access to reliable internet for work, study and being able to stay connected to friends and family, but many people in public housing missed out due to cost, or the difficulties and complexities getting connected in a high-rise tower,” Ms Sandell said.

“Over the past year I've been lobbying the state government to fund a trial of free, easy-to-access internet and better digital inclusion in our public housing towers in inner Melbourne, including Carlton. I hope we'll see this funded soon.”

Public Housing Residents' Network president

Cory Memery echoed the recommendations of the report, stating that all public housing residents “should have access to affordable, reliable, quality internet services”.

“As the report says: ‘access to the internet should be seen as a human right,’” Mr Memery said. “It is the gateway to so many services and opportunities that residents should have.”

“It is possible for whole buildings to have a single internet provider that residents could log into individually. Public hospitals have it across Victoria, as do council libraries, hotels and airports, to name just a few examples. Low fees could be set for cost recovery for a single not-for-profit provider for each building.”

“The Public Housing Residents' Network and the Save Public Housing Collective calls on the Department of Fairness, Families and Housing to live up to its title and review this highly valuable report and investigate our proposal as soon as possible.”

Aspokesperson for the Victorian Government said Homes Victoria was considering the findings on the University of Melbourne's report into the Carlton Housing Estate.

“We're making sure internet access is accessible to all Victorians, particularly those living in public and community housing by installing the NBN in all high rise tower units,” the spokesperson said. “Our Digital Strategy 2021-2026 provides a blueprint for how Victoria will accelerate change and investment in digital infrastructure over the next five years.”

“Homes Victoria is working with organisations such as Star Health and the City of Yarra to improve digital inclusion, including education programs for elderly renters and free Wi-Fi in open spaces or community rooms.”

It says it also provided more than 90,000 devices and 28,000 data dongles to families to support remote learning during the pandemic, as well as “a further \$4 million this year to improve and upgrade libraries so more community members have access to affordable wifi”. ●

Safety summit “positive step” in listening to the community

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*
PHOTOGRAPHY BY *Murray Enders*
SAFETY & SECURITY

A much-anticipated safety summit has been held bringing together the City of Melbourne, Victoria Police, residents' groups, and stakeholders to address various issues facing the city.

More than 50 people attended the August 19 summit at Town Hall – with safety infrastructure, safety at night, community policing, and the Connect Respect program among the issues discussed.

The Connect Respect program, which is delivered by the Council to Homeless Persons and the City of Melbourne, helps businesses build their understanding of and support their response to homelessness in the city.

“Community safety is a priority for us at the City of Melbourne,” Lord Mayor Sally Capp said, adding the summit aimed to “facilitate safer neighbourhoods for everyone and agree on actions to be taken”.

“We heard from Victoria Police and our own city safety team, as well as broader questions and feedback from our presidents of residents' community groups,” she said.

“We're looking forward to continuing these discussions and working together towards agreed outcomes.”

The Lord Mayor said the council would investigate increasing lighting outside commercial buildings, as well as making it easier for building owners to install external CCTV cameras.

The council would also find ways of better communicating safety programs it had in place, she said.

The Parkville Association's



president Rob Moore said the summit was a “positive step” in listening to the community.

“It's amazing how many different challenges there are depending on where you live in Melbourne,” he said.

He said encouraging people to lock up their bicycles and reminding

people not to leave valuables in cars were measures the association was taking to reduce the amount of theft incidents.

Mr Moore also noted the step up in police patrols in Carlton had been a “great result” after Victoria Police launched Operation Velocita in

July, which is aimed at ensuring the community is safe through a highly visible presence.

The East Melbourne Group (EMG) also attended, saying it was an “excellent initiative” by the City of Melbourne.

“They should be congratulated for bringing together the concerned parties,” the EMG's planning convenor Greg Bisinella said.

“EMG raised the issue safety in our parks, given the large number of parks in and surrounding East Melbourne.”

Mr Bisinella said the council pointed to improved lighting at Fitzroy Gardens and promised to investigate other initiatives to make their suburb a safe place to live.

“Increased cameras are supported by the EMG and indeed all parties involved at the summit.” ●



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Pandemic therapeutics centre announced for Melbourne following historic \$250 million donation

WORDS BY *Kaylah-Joelle Baker*
HEALTH

The establishment of Parkville's very own global centre for pandemic therapeutics has been announced following a significant philanthropic donation from international businessman and philanthropist Geoffrey Cumming.

The donated amount of \$250 million to the University of Melbourne to establish the centre within the Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity, marks itself as the largest philanthropic donation made to medical research in Australia's history.

Mr Cumming is a Canadian and New Zealand citizen who now resides in Melbourne, and his donation has been remarked as "critical to establishing a centre of this global size, scale, and significance", according to University of Melbourne Vice-Chancellor, Professor Duncan Maskell.

Now appointed the Cumming Global Centre for Pandemic Therapeutics, the centre will be dedicated to a 20-year research program and used to develop new technologies to treat future pathogens of pandemic potential.

"This new global medical research centre is conceived as a long-term initiative to provide greater protection for global society against future pandemics," Mr Cumming said.

"It will attract top researchers and scientists from Australia and around the world, on long-term contracts, in a collaborative medical research effort which is designed to enhance global resiliency."

Mr Cumming said it was also the centre's objective to become the top pandemic therapeutic research centre globally, and through creating solutions it can help with "minimis[ing] the impact of future pandemics".

While the centre is being established at the Doherty Institute, it is said that it will eventually be relocated to the new Australian Institute for Infectious Diseases (AIID) which is set to open in 2027.

The \$650 million AIID centre has been funded by a \$400 million investment from the Victorian Government, along with funding from the University of Melbourne, the Doherty Institute and the Burnet Institute.

The government has also backed up the AIID funding with an additional \$75 million investment into the establishment of the Cumming Global Centre for Pandemic Therapeutics.



▲ Philanthropists Geoffrey and Anna Cumming, University of Melbourne Vice-Chancellor Professor Duncan Maskell, Doherty Institute director, Professor Sharon Lewin and University of Melbourne Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research Professor Jim McCluskey.

"This is an investment in our leading medical researchers to create life-saving therapeutics and vaccines for infectious diseases and help us fight future pandemics," Premier Daniel Andrews said.

A recently released 2022-2032 Health and Medical Research Strategy from the state government outlined a vision for Victoria to continue to be a global leader in medical research, and it seems the funding into both institutes has made this clear.

Acknowledging the "significant contribution" from the government, Doherty Institute director Professor Sharon Lewin also deeply thanked Mr Cumming and his family, labelling the funding a "transformational gift" that will see great changes occur.

"An effective pandemic response requires both vaccines and treatments but innovation in anti-pathogen therapeutics has lagged in comparison to vaccines, with \$137 billion publicly invested globally in vaccines compared to just \$7 billion in therapeutics during the first 12 months of the COVID-19 pandemic," Professor Lewin said.

"The Cumming Global Centre for Pandemic Therapeutics will focus on research in emerging, high potential molecular platforms and computational techniques to develop new therapeutics with unprecedented speed."

The Doherty Institute is aiming to leverage Mr Cumming's philanthropic donation over the next 10 years with a goal of raising a total of \$1.5 billion already in place. ●

Sky rail near Parkville parkland sparks community concern

Continued from page 1.

He also hoped there could be thorough community consultation and not something that was "rammed through".
"On face value this could be another sad sight from Melbourne's most important park."

Friends of Royal Park secretary Kaye Oddie also voiced concern over the visual and noise impacts the sky rail would have on amenity and wildlife if the sky rail interfered with Royal Park.

"Such sky rails are highly obtrusive infrastructure, as evidenced from the level crossing removal projects undertaken so far," Ms Oddie said.

"What is the cost benefit for a sky rail over Park St based on the traffic volumes in this street? And for this particular sky rail, there would be not much opportunity for creating new space/parkland underneath, given the particular topography."

The eight level crossings to be removed (all of which, excepting Park St, are in Brunswick) include Albert St, Albion St, Brunswick Rd, Dawson St, Hope St, Union St, and Victoria St.

Currently, around 71,000 vehicles travel through the level crossings during the morning peak with the boom gates down for up to 30 minutes.

Minister for Transport Infrastructure Jacinta Allan said the level crossings were "death traps" and needed to go to make the roads safer, ease congestion, and clear the way for more trains.

If the rail corridor was to be elevated, the government said it would be a "boon" for the Upfield bike path – as being seen by communities in Coburg and Brunswick – with a new dedicated



bike and pedestrian path from Bell St to Park St, "providing a safer and quicker connection for locals".

"The project will make the Upfield bike path one of the most important bike paths in Melbourne, and a major transport connection from the north into the city," the government said.

Community group Protectors of Public Lands Victoria Inc. president Fiona Bell said community consultation needed to start early as there were "more questions than answers" at this stage of the plans.

"Overall, we welcome the removal of level crossings because it makes both driving and using a train easier, but we want to know whether all these stations are being retained, whether it's actually being elevated over the parkland, and whether any parkland or sports fields will be lost by the size of it," she said.

She also asked, "How swiftly can the rail come down to be at ground level for Royal Park?"

Furthermore, Ms Bell did not want to see the same outcome occur like the level crossing removal at Union Rd, Surrey Hills, in which an elevated rail "took over" parkland and trees.

"We'll certainly keep an eye on that with great interest," she said.

When the project is complete, there will be no level crossings between Parkville and Coburg on the Upfield line. ●

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▲ Minister for Public Transport Ben Carroll, Member for Northern Metropolitan Sheena Watt and Labor candidate for Brunswick Mike Williams. Photo by Murray Enders.

Community rejoices over hard-fought bus service increase

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*
TRANSPORT

The Parkville Gardens community is celebrating after its campaign to increase bus services to its neighbourhood – which included continued advocacy from local Greens MPs – was finally a success.

For years, residents have felt short-changed with the lack of public transport servicing the booming residential area.

But in a long-awaited announcement, the state government said it would be providing additional weekday services along the 505 bus route, connecting Moonee Ponds to the University of Melbourne via Parkville Gardens.

More than 10 new services in total will be added, including increased services at peak hours – both in the morning and evening, as well as in between peak periods.

This is set to make a huge difference for people accessing a wide range of retail and medical services, as well as the University of Melbourne and University High School.

The Melbourne Zoo, Royal Park and Princes Park are also connected to the 505 bus route, which was initially introduced to provide public transport access to the former 2006 Commonwealth Games Athletes' Village, now known as Parkville Gardens.

Since then, demand has grown as the Parkville Gardens residential development has continued to expand.

“Public transport across the inner city is an essential service, whether it is getting students to school or university, or ensuring residents get to their work or appointments – this investment in additional services is so important,” the Minister for Public Transport Ben Carroll said.

The state government said timetable information for the 505 bus route was still being finalised, with the upgraded

services set to begin in early 2023 and then be reviewed after 12 months.

The news comes as local Greens MPs have long advocated on behalf of the growing community to increase the bus services with Brunswick MP Dr Tim Read also launching a community petition last year, which resulted in the state government committing to funding in the 2021-22 state budget for improved services.

But when more than a year had passed and “nothing had happened”, residents were left frustrated, prompting the Greens’ leader and Member for the Northern Metropolitan Region Samantha Ratnam to address parliament in May to seek answers.

Mr Carroll, who took the question on notice, announced in September that the government was “finalising details” for additional bus services to Parkville Gardens.

Melbourne state MP Ellen Sandell, whose seat will cover Parkville Gardens when it is transferred from Dr Read’s electorate ahead of the state election in November, said she was delighted to hear the state government would deliver additional services for the 505 bus route, which was officially announced on September 19.

“The Victorian Greens have been advocating for this on behalf of residents and the local community for a long time,” she said.

“We were able to get a commitment to more 505 bus services in the state budget, and I’m pleased that the government is finally delivering them.”

The additional services are all part of Victoria’s Bus Plan, which is delivering improvements to the state’s bus network.

Member for Northern Metropolitan Region Sheena Watt said the government was meeting the demands of the local inner Melbourne community.

“As residential developments increase, transport upgrades are crucial to connect people to where they need to go,” she said. ●

Council approves plan to demolish bowls club cottage for green space

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*
COUNCIL AFFAIRS

A weatherboard caretaker’s cottage next to the Princes Park Bowls clubrooms will be demolished to make way for open space after plans were approved by the City of Melbourne.

The site at 109 Bowen Crescent, Carlton North, is listed as a significant heritage place under the Heritage Places Inventory March 2022, however, the council confirmed this related to the cream brick clubhouse and not the caretaker’s cottage.

The planning application, approved by councillors at their Future Melbourne Committee meeting on September 6, seeks to demolish the caretaker’s cottage – which the council said would not remove any heritage fabric – and be replaced with new trees, landscaping, and a new timber fence.

The state government owns the site, but the City of Melbourne is the public land manager. As the demolition plan would be less than \$1 million, no planning permit was required for buildings and works.

“Demolition of the weatherboard building, timber fence and concrete paving will not have an adverse impact on the heritage significance of the site, Princes Park or the Carlton heritage precinct,” a council report said.

Speaking at the council’s meeting, heritage portfolio lead Cr Rohan Leppert said while the cottage didn’t have heritage significance, there is “still a permit trigger under the heritage overlay” as the site was of heritage significance.

“However, it’s quite clear that the proposal before us faithfully implements the Princes Park Master Plan that we adopted in 2013,” he said.

“It will result in no net detriment to the heritage situation of the bowls club, but it will certainly provide a good opportunity for greening and biodiversity plantings which is going to have a significant public improvement to the site.”



▲ The weatherboard caretaker’s cottage which will be demolished.

“A permit should be issued so that the works can proceed.” Under the plans, which attracted one objection, the proposal “will enhance the recreational and leisure function” of the Princes Park Bowls Club.

According to the council, the Princes Park Master Plan had been an important consideration in the development of the plans for the new open space for Princes Park Bowl Club.

“In particular, the improvements proposed for the northern section of the park. A key consideration has been the future plans to relocate the bowls club building to the south of the bowling green,” it said.

Councillor Davydd Griffiths, an avid bowler, welcomed the proposal as it had no impact the historical nature of the buildings and met the needs of the residents. The council issued public notice of the proposal via mail.

The Princes Park Bowls Club was contacted for comment. ●

Calls mount to address illegal parking in East Melbourne

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*
COUNCIL AFFAIRS

Calls are being made to increase the amount of the parking officers patrolling East Melbourne as illegal parking continued to upset residents.

Residents have previously expressed frustration of cars blocking their driveways and nature strips as well as using local parklands, which had significantly damaged grounds, particularly during game days and events held at the MCG.

The East Melbourne Group (EMG) said while it was pleased some concerns had been addressed including the closure of Vale St to non-residents during event days, it saw the under resourcing of parking officers as a “bigger issue”.

“Two officers on game days are not enough to deter those who park illegally. Anecdotally, some will just get a carload of four to six people and share the fine as part of the cost of going to the football,” the EMG’s planning convenor Greg Bisinella said.

“More thought needs to be put into how to manage this. The deterrence of the current fine structure is not enough, particularly considering that in some cases people don’t even receive a fine.”

Julie, a resident who lives near the MCG, said she was

fed up with cars parking within the grounds of her apartment building, blocking their garage door.

“When our private parking space is taken from us, we have to search the entire suburb looking for a space,” she said.

The issue was raised at the council’s August 16 meeting after a resident submitted a question asking if the council could provide a “greater focus” on the compliance of parking sign rules as the availability of parking for locals had been “adversely impacted”.

In response, Lord Mayor Sally Capp said like all inner-city areas, on-street parking in East Melbourne was “indeed under strain” due to a high volume of resident parking, visitors to the hospital and sporting precincts and works/trades vehicles.

“The parking compliance team is aware of this and makes East Melbourne a high focus of its compliance operations - parking officers patrol in East Melbourne seven days a week with a bespoke patrol strategy for the area, and we roster on additional officers to assist during AFL matches,” she said.

“Officers use a mix of technology and on-foot patrols to detect parking offences and issue fines to illegal parkers, to encourage them to modify their future parking behaviour.”

Cr Capp noted the council’s director of parking services had met with the EMG to discuss parking concerns. ●

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Take part in a wren-watch to protect local birdlife

WORDS BY *Carol Saffer*
ENVIRONMENT

The Superb Fairy-wren polled 400,000 votes to win the *Guardian Australia/Birdlife Australia* bird of the year for 2021.

If you want to see what this cute round little bird with an upright tail looks like and help protect its habitat, head to Royal Park in Parkville.

Adults and children of all ages can join a citizen science project by signing up for a 15-minute “wren-watch” at one of 50 survey areas in Royal Park to record sightings of the colourful bird via the BioCollect app.

It’s a perfect way to spend time during the school holidays and over summer while helping the City of Melbourne understand where the little birds prefer to live and forage.

Adult breeding males have bright blue and black plumage, while non-breeding adult males and females have greyish brown feathers.

Acting Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece said, “The distinctive markings on the Superb Fairy-wren make them one of our most loved birds, and now we’re calling on Melburnians to help us learn more about this stunning species.”

The data will assist the council with planting strategic vegetation to improve the environment’s survival and the quality of the local birdlife.

The council is delivering the citizen science project of Melbourne in partnership with Birdlife Australia, RMIT University and the University of Melbourne.

RMIT University Urban Ecologist at the Centre for Urban Research Dr Holly Kirk said,



“Commuting in cities can be as hard for birds as it is for people, especially for our smallest flying neighbours.”

“Understanding which conservation actions help Superb Fairy-wrens find food and safe places to rest is a great step towards making our cities more hospitable for many other species – bringing nature back for everyone to enjoy,” she said.

Birdlife Australia safely fitted more than 100 small birds, including 55 Superb Fairy-wrens, with coloured leg bands in Royal Park as part of the project’s first phase.

They will continue to fit juvenile Superb Fairy-wrens in late spring to summer for further monitoring.

Birdlife Australia Research Ecologist Dr Kerry Herman said, “Colour-banding allows

us to identify and monitor individual birds over time, helping us learn more about how Superb Fairy-wrens have adapted to urban spaces.”

“By learning more about our birdlife with the help of Melburnians, we can improve conservation outcomes for a broad range of bird species and ultimately, better connect our urban greenspaces to support ... thriving urban biodiversity.” ●

For more information:



▲ The City of Melbourne has knocked back a planning application proposing to redevelop the dilapidated former Cancer Council in Carlton.

Council knocks back plans to redevelop a Carlton “eyesore” after citing “significant issues”

Continued from page 1.

“We would welcome an amended application which addresses the issues identified by our urban planners.”

In 2019, a \$5 million revamp was proposed to transform the building into a mixed-use commercial property, but the plan never came to fruition.

The site was originally occupied by The Queens Coffee Palace, built in 1888 for the centennial exhibition, but demolished in 1970, sometime after a fire destroyed the roof. ●

Public vote will choose the 2023 pride tram

WORDS BY *Carol Saffer*
ARTS & CULTURE

For the third consecutive year, a design-wrapped tram will travel in the annual Midsumma Pride March in 2023 and around the Melbourne tram network until the end of the year.

This year, however, the public can choose the winning design for the tram.

Yarra Trams, in partnership with the Midsumma Festival and Joy Media, want the rainbow communities of Melbourne to design the next #AllAboard tram.

Yarra Trams CEO Julien Dehornoy said, “I absolutely cannot wait to see what designs Melburnians come up with for #AllAboard 2023.”

“We want to see what you think inclusion on public transport looks like and what #AllAboard means for you.”

Design submissions for the pride tram close on September 30. A judging panel drawn from Yarra Trams, Midsumma, Joy Media, and the Department of Transport will review all entries and select five finalists.

Then it will be over to the public to vote for their favourite design.

The finalists’ work will be displayed online at yarratrams.com.au/AllAboard, along with a link to the voting, from Friday,



October 7.

The winner will be announced on Monday, October 24, via social media and Yarra Trams website.

The tram will be wrapped in the second week of December and unveiled to the public in mid-December at the Malvern tram depot.

The winning artist will be awarded \$5000 for their artwork, which will be applied to a D1-class tram and take pride of place at the 2023 Midsumma Pride March.

The second-placed artist will take home \$3000 for their design which will feature on a tram shelter in the vicinity of the Victorian

Pride Centre for the Midsumma Pride March in February.

Midsumma’s CEO Karen Bryant said, “We are thrilled to be partnering with Yarra Trams to provide this important public art opportunity for LGBTQIA+ visual artists to share their talents and unique visual stories.”

The 2023 #AllAboard tram will continue to highlight Yarra Tram’s message that it celebrates Melbourne’s diverse communities and welcomes those from all walks of life aboard its trams and network.

As the tram rolls along the route of the Midsumma Pride March, Yarra Trams workers are expected to march alongside this symbol of inclusion and diversity as they have done in previous years.

JOY is Australia’s LGBTQIA+ independent media organisation, made up of the diverse voices of the rainbow.

Joy CEO Ange Barry said it was excited to be recognised on the iconic Pride Tram.

“We are proud to be featured alongside the successful artist’s original work and to be seen and celebrated by Melburnians as the Pride Tram winds its way along our beautiful streets, and of course, as the lead of our Pride March,” she said.

The current #AllAboard D-class tram is wrapped in the colours of the Progress Pride flag and operates on routes 5, 6, 16, and 72. ●

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Melbourne Museum hosts *Bricktionalary* exhibition

WORDS BY *Carol Saffer*
PHOTOGRAPHY BY *Murray Enders*
BUSINESS

An interactive exhibition of Ryan McNaught's best-selling book *The Bricktionalary: The Ultimate A-Z of LEGO*, is now at Melbourne Museum until January 29, 2023.

The display, filled with more than 150 models, boasts six interactive build zones, giving everyone the chance to become a master builder.

Ryan McNaught said his latest book *Bricktionalary* was a true A-Z of cool LEGO models and, most importantly, ideas.

"There is no better way to inspire the builders of tomorrow than by showing them in person, and of course [encouraging] getting their hands dirty, with the millions of bricks we have for them to build with," he said.

Visitors can create their very own LEGO models, learn about how to make their builds stronger and test their skills against the Earthquake machine.

Mr McNaught was three years old when his grandmother gave him his first LEGO toy.

"I remember it was a blue boat and I sat with my granddad on his chair: I was hooked," he said.

From anime to animals, fashion to fantasy and tabletop games to TV shows, there will be something at the exhibition to inspire everyone to grab their bricks and get building.

Museums Victoria CEO and director Lynley Crosswell said Melbourne Museum had always been a place for families to play, learn and explore their creativity.

"We are thrilled to launch this interactive LEGO brick experience and look forward to welcoming families through our doors to experience the wonder of *Bricktionalary*," she said.



▲ *Ryan McNaught.*

The presentation is designed as a collaborative experience, offering an exciting creative expedition for families, children, and adults alike.

With brand-new hands-on challenges and featuring over one million bricks, participants will learn how to turn LEGO dreams into reality, with amazing creations and something to spark everyone's imagination.

Mr McNaught said the giant space shuttle at more than five metres high seemed to be the most popular item at the exhibition.

"I think it has had a million selfies taken already," McNaught said 50,000 people attended *Bricktionalary* on the Gold Coast earlier this year from April to August.

"The tickets sold out quickly and I'm sure it will be the go-to destination here in Melbourne," he said.

For more information: museums victoria.com.au ●



The Mary MacKillop mural worth a thousand stories

WORDS BY *Kaylah-Joelle Baker*
ARTS & CULTURE

East Melbourne's Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre unveiled a long-awaited mural on September 7 during an intimate gathering to celebrate the Sisters of Saint Joseph's 120 years of service at the same location.

The mural was designed and created by Hullabaloo Studios' Christine Sage and Regina Byrne who have continued to produce an expansive amount of work, particularly in the form of bronze sculptures, for Catholic schools around Australia.

In attendance at the unveiling were the Sisters of Saint Joseph, Archbishop Peter Comensoli, the artists, and students from Thomas Carr College.

"The actual opening was so special as we were celebrating and recognising 120 years of the work of the Sisters on this site which started with giving women on the streets accommodation," Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre director Ted Javernik said.

"The work of Hullabaloo Studios is amazing, and we are just so appreciative they did this for us at our particular time in need."

The mural speaks to the ministry of the Sisters of St Joseph in various places around the city and state, and provides further insight into Mary MacKillop's life in Melbourne through combining a multitude of images that each have a story behind them.

To engage viewers with the stories further, a sheet with QR codes linked to each image is provided so people can listen to short audio recordings associated with the selected image.

Stories range from Mary's birth and parents to stories about poor women with children who have found help from the Sisters, and letters sent from

Mary MacKillop to her Sisters during her travels via horse and buggy.

"Each lens [image] gives you something quite unique about the time, the places, the people and what they contributed," Mr Javernik said.

The mural has been a project more than 12 months in the making for the centre with all the Sisters, educators and historians, front-of-desk and secretary staff working together to make it a thorough teaching resource for young students and museum visitors.

The outdoor car park space where the mural is set up also allows the centre to have larger school groups come through – something that was harder during COVID when they only had indoor museum spaces available.

"It was set up because when COVID happened we needed to have smaller groups of children because there weren't enough spaces," Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre Sister Patricia Williams said.

"Now we have created another space to be able to have them, and we have a whole range of activities for them to do."

When students come to see the mural, they are also given an activity sheet with 13 options for them to work through.

Tasks include creating their own lens, reflecting on the audio and what they are doing to help someone else, and making a bookmark.

The intention for the mural and the associated activities is for schools groups and visitors to be able to self-direct themselves through the work.

Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre relies on minimal resources to share its message of hope, and it is through this new addition to the centre that it will be able to continue to educate students from next term. ●

Borrow kitchen items from a unique Carlton library

WORDS BY *Carol Saffer*
COMMUNITY

Behind the Carlton Kitchen Library's green wall is a space stacked to the ceiling with a wonderful variety of kitchen appliances and utensils available for borrowing by the local community.

Cultivating Community food systems and community engagement team leader Peta Christensen said people who lived in the Carlton housing estate and surrounding areas didn't always have a lot of space in their kitchens.

"This limits what they can prepare, so increasing access to kitchen equipment at the library encourages people to cook at home," she said.

"It's also about a sharing economy and a circular economy where you don't have to own everything."

When refugees leave their country, they don't usually bring their pots and pans with them, and setting up a new kitchen can be expensive.

By providing a space for donated unwanted appliances to find new life and promoting borrowing, the library hopes to act as a space for sharing

cooking items and the rich cooking knowledge within the community.

Of the hundreds of items in the library, 80 per cent were donated.

"[For new donations] we have a wish list on our website of exactly what we still need," Ms Christensen said.

Everyday items donated, such as kettles and saucepans, are given to new Carlton residents who are setting up a kitchen and home with little money.

Ms Christensen said most people understood how a library worked.

"We are part of a movement of share libraries, like tool libraries, toy libraries," she said. "For most people, it makes sense to have access to what they want when they need it."

Some popular items borrowed regularly are their event packs consisting of cutlery and crockery, glasses, cups and saucers etc., for large gatherings.

"These are very popular along with borrowing table clothes, picnic mats, big pots for cooking sauces and soups, food warmers, large esky drink containers, cake carriers, cake stands, and cake tins," she said.

"We are trying to get away from

throwing out 70 plastic plates, knives and forks after an event."

Another advantage the library offers is a try-before-you-buy borrowing system.

"If you are thinking about buying an expensive kitchen appliance, say like an air fryer, and you want to test it out, take one on loan from the library first," Ms Christensen said.

"We have quite a few people regularly trying out items."

The library has 454 items and 167 members.

Funding for the library project is minimal, so it is only open on Friday from 10am to 12pm.

Borrowers can go online, reserve the items they want, and collect them from Kathleen Syme Library at any time that suits them during opening hours.

If online access is unavailable, Ms Christensen said residents could call, text or email their orders. ●

For more information:
carltonkitchenlibrary.myturn.com/library



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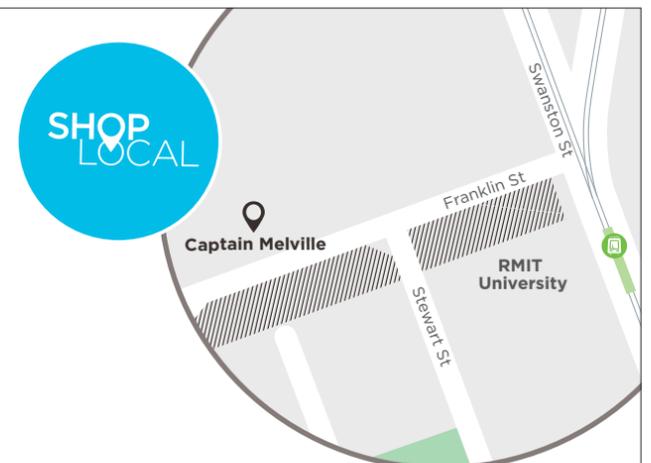
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The City of Melbourne strives to be a leader in responding to climate change, reducing our carbon footprint, building resilience and increasing urban biodiversity.

Melbourne's eco-city credentials are strong. We are proud to be a member of the C40 Leadership Group and the 100 Resilient Cities Network.

Being recognised internationally for our efforts addressing climate change means we also have the great privilege of setting an example for other cities.

This month, Lord Mayor Sally Capp will travel to Buenos Aires, Argentina for the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group (C40) World Mayors Summit 2022.

It is the first major climate convention of city leaders since COVID-19, and

precedes COP 27 in Egypt in November.

At this summit, the Lord Mayor will share the City of Melbourne's biggest and boldest goals to fight climate change.

'The City of Melbourne will be a city powered by 100 per cent renewable energy by 2030, and reach zero net emissions by 2040,' the Lord Mayor said.

'Since declaring a climate and biodiversity emergency in 2019, we've worked tirelessly to transition our city to a more sustainable and environmentally friendly place.

'We are committed to being a global leader on climate action and are delivering emission reduction initiatives that are commensurate with that declaration,' she said.

Our organisation directly contributes less than 1 per cent of the municipality's emissions and has limited control to regulate the remaining 99 per cent.

That's why we're using our position to influence the community to take action too.

We're setting the standard in climate action and sustainability in many ways.

Our operations have been certified carbon neutral every year since 2012.

Our major events such as Moomba, Melbourne Fashion Week, Melbourne Music Week and Melbourne Knowledge Week are certified carbon neutral too.

GREEN POWERED

In 2017, the City of Melbourne led the transition away from coal through a 10-year, \$200 million renewable energy group purchase agreement.

In an Australian-first, the Melbourne Renewable Energy Project saw a group of local governments, universities and corporations collectively purchase renewable energy.

We've now delivered two energy purchasing agreements, reducing the equivalent of 5 per cent of the city's emissions - leading Melbourne to be the first capital city council in Australia powered by 100 per cent renewable energy.

Energy is flowing into the power grid from the wind turbines at the Pacific Hydro wind farm at Crowlands, near Ararat.

Every light on our streets, every treadmill in our gyms and every barbecue in our parks is now powered by renewable energy.

This model has been replicated across Australia and enabled production of 8GW of renewable energy.

POWER MELBOURNE

Power Melbourne will establish a network of coordinated neighbourhood-scale batteries to deliver more affordable energy into the grid.

Environment portfolio lead Councillor Rohan Leppert said 'we're going big with Power Melbourne'.

'Delivering at a scale that is large enough to support the grid, participate in energy markets and provide a meaningful benefit to our community,' Cr Leppert said.

'Neighbourhood battery technology is in its infancy in Australia, and we're proud to be leading the way in creating cleaner energy solutions in Australia with Power Melbourne.'

Many residents and businesses in our municipality are locked out of the renewable energy market. Those who rent or live in an apartment are often unable to install solar panels, and we know from market research that selecting an affordable green power option can be difficult.

Through Power Melbourne, we'll install a network of batteries around the city to create a virtual energy grid.

Local rooftop solar will charge the batteries, allowing renewable energy to be stored, then released back into the electricity grid when it's needed most.

'Not only will Power Melbourne provide access to affordable green energy for tens of thousands of local residents and small businesses, it will also reduce emissions and contribute to a more sustainable future,' Cr Leppert said.

We're exploring suitable locations for Power Melbourne batteries on council-owned buildings, including Queen Victoria Market, Library at the Dock, Kensington Recreation Centre and Council House 2 in the CBD.

We'd like to know what you think about neighbourhood batteries and how we can make it easy to switch your energy bills to a Power Melbourne plan.

From 26 September to 31 October, have your say at **participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au/power-melbourne**



We're exploring suitable locations for Power Melbourne batteries on council-owned buildings

ADVERTISEMENT
Your City of Melbourne community update

ZERO CARBON BUILDINGS

More than 60 per cent of emissions in Melbourne come from commercial buildings.

We've recently formed a partnership with universities and private businesses to reduce emissions from these buildings.

We're taking a lead role pursuing more sustainable planning requirements to ensure our neighbourhoods and buildings are built to the highest quality and environmental standards, and aligned to best practice in the Australian industry.

We've introduced planning scheme amendments to ensure new development contributes to achieving our sustainability and green infrastructure goals, and ultimately helps to tackle the climate and biodiversity emergency.

Now we're committed to supporting and refurbishing older buildings to improve their energy efficiency.

BREATH is an innovative new retrofit project which aims to improve air quality and ventilation within commercial buildings and move the city closer to its goal of zero carbon buildings.

The project pilot tested and evaluated three types of ventilation systems over three months.

It found simple changes to ventilation systems can significantly decrease the transmission of COVID-19 and reduce energy consumption in office buildings. It's given us the knowledge to predict the best type of retrofit to achieve these aims.

We're set to begin consultation with the building industry so we can work together to ensure buildings in our municipality are zero carbon ready by 2040.

The initial phase will focus on commercial buildings, including high rise residential apartments which contain commercial space.

From 4 October, share your thoughts with us at participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au



We're consulting with the building industry to ensure city buildings are zero carbon ready by 2040

ZERO WASTE CITY

We are committed to reducing food waste and diverting it from landfill by implementing food and garden organic waste solutions tailored to different buildings within the municipality.

We are aiming to increase overall waste diverted from landfill by 50 per cent by 2025. More than 22,000 City of Melbourne households use our Food and Garden Organic (FOGO) Service.

As part of our mission to be a Zero Waste City, we have already diverted more than 1200 tonnes of organic material from landfill – that is the equivalent weight of 46 trams.

Our waste trucks then pick up the garden waste for processing.

Here, it is turned into nutrient-rich compost to be used on Victorian farms and City of Melbourne parks and gardens.



Our FOGO program is aimed at moving towards a more circular economy

We continue to roll out Food and Garden Organic service across the municipality – with the service being extended to high-rises next.

Our FOGO program is aimed at moving towards a more circular economy, where we design out waste wherever possible, and reuse and repair items as a priority.

From 3 October to 27 November, have your say on how we can incentivise waste reduction and encourage recycling, at participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au/waste-charge

COOLING OUR CITY

Our goal is to cool summertime temperatures in our city by 4C by 2040.

We'll achieve this by doubling our tree canopy to 40 per cent and increasing the permeability of our city's surfaces.

We plant 3000 trees every year to reduce the heat island effect in the city.

And we continue to work with developers to incorporate more green roofs in the CBD and to advocate for more greening in the city.

Our Urban Forest Fund provides financial support to new greening projects that otherwise would not be funded.

We'll soon announce the latest Urban Forest Fund grant recipients to create a greener, more sustainable city.



Our goal is to cool summertime temperatures in our city by 4C

'City greening projects like these are essential to adapting our city to a changing climate, supporting its continual transformation into a thriving urban forest,' Cr Leppert said.

'Together, these projects will increase our climate resilience by improving biodiversity and canopy cover, reducing air pollution and mitigating impacts of the urban heat island effect.'

GREENLINE TO BE A COOL ROUTE

While we work to cool the city, we're also exploring new ways people can keep cool when moving about the city.

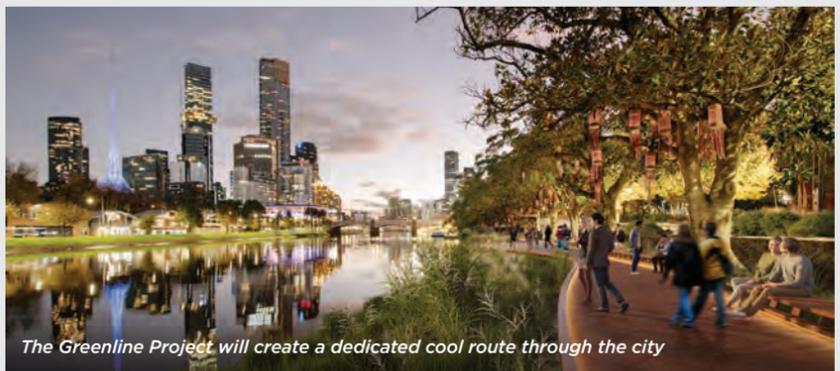
We've developed our Cool Routes website to enable users to plot thermally comfortable journeys walking and cycling journeys across the municipality.

Cool Routes takes into account the time of day, the city architecture and surrounds to give users not necessarily the fastest route, but the route best protected from the sun and heat.

The Greenline Project will transform the northern bank of our city's waterway, delivering a continuous four-kilometre promenade of parks and public space. It will become a designated cool route.

The project will return areas of harsh concrete to its natural riverbank state, improving the flora and fauna of our river and increasing canopy cover by 40 per cent along the northbank.

Not only will it deliver a \$60 million benefit from protecting and enhancing the environment but it will also decrease discharge to improve water quality, improve soil quality and enhance greening, and establish ecological corridor for habitats.



The Greenline Project will create a dedicated cool route through the city



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

Connect with us

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-  @cityofmelbourne



Let the Indonesian festivities begin

WORDS BY *Kaylah-Joelle Baker*
ARTS & CULTURE

Festival Indonesia Inc. and the Consulate General of the Republic of Indonesia in Melbourne are coming together again for a two-day only festival to celebrate all things Indonesian: culture, tourism and trade.

Festival Indonesia had been an ongoing annual festival and collaborative program between the organisation and consulate since 2005, but it came to a halt in 2012.

Now, after a 10-year hiatus, Festival Indonesia is relaunching this year with its ninth edition in Melbourne to promote Indonesian Investment, Trade and Tourism (ITT).

In a recent press release announcement, the Festival Indonesia team said it felt it was time for the festival to come back to Melbourne after the pandemic put a halt to many festivities.

“It is time to relaunch Festival Indonesia towards the Australian public, to remind it about the beauty and extraordinariness of Indonesia and encourage it to visit and do business with their closest neighbour,” the Festival Indonesia team said.

Starting on September 30 and wrapping up on October 2, Festival Indonesia will have two events spread out between Carlton and the CBD.

The festival will kick off with the ticketed event *Echo of the Archipelago Indonesian Night* in the Arthur Streeton Auditorium at Sofitel



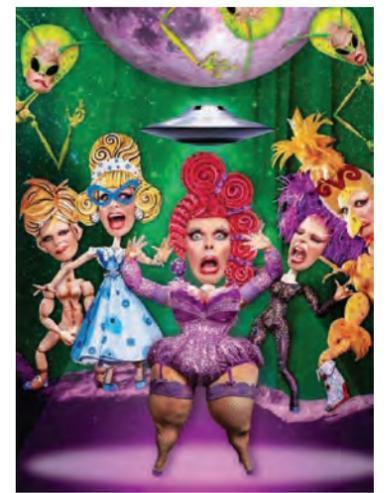
Melbourne from 7pm.

Festival Indonesia will then take to Argyle Square in Carlton from 10am on the Sunday for its major event of an outdoor festival with stalls of food and trade, and stage performances to showcase Indonesian culture.

This final day will also see Festival Indonesia attempt to create the biggest Maumere Dance flash mob in Australia, through involving as many participants as possible in the popular Indonesian line dance. ●



For more information:
festivalindonesia.com.au



A quirky, outrageous puppet show premieres at Melbourne Fringe Festival

WORDS BY *Carol Saffer*
ARTS & CULTURE

What happened when COVID beached cruise ship performer Murray Raine?

Lockdowns provided endless hours of creative time, and a new affiliation with Centrelink replaced a once lucrative job.

So, Mr Raine, a professional puppeteer and Carlton local, chose to reinvent his marionette skills and create *They Came From Uranus*, a humanette cabaret and comedy act for grown-ups.

“This rarely seen form of puppetry involves my head on a puppet’s body,” he said.

“I am the face of the 20 humanettes in the show and the operator of each character’s body and actions.”

This unique show is performed in an ornate miniature burlesque theatre and features a dazzling array of shadow puppetry, multi-media projections and outrageous costumes.

Sitting in the front row at kindergarten spellbound watching the Tintookies, a marionette troupe created by Peter Scriven for The Australian Elizabethan Theatre Trust, was the bolt of lightning that set Mr Raine on his career path.

“I knew then that this is what I wanted to do: I started puppet classes when I was seven years old,”

he said.

With the finesse of a drag queen’s mascara brush, Mr Raine has created a troupe of dazzling cabaret performers, each more outrageous than the last, where what is real morphs into the ridiculous and where indecency is redefined.

“I had a terrific team working with me; Neil Ray wrote the script; James Welsby is the director and Isaac Lummis lavishly costumed all the humanettes.”

Big eyelashes, gorgeous wigs, and an excess of sequin and feather define these stunning not-quite-human performers as they strut, lip-sync and shimmy to a non-stop kaleidoscope of music and sounds from the sizzling ‘60s to now.

“The show’s debut runs for eight nights from Saturday, October 15 at Trades Hall during Melbourne Fringe Festival, and then we hope to take the show to other venues,” Mr Raine said.

The storyline of *They Came From Uranus* is one of lust, sex and perversion featuring the planet’s alien race of sexually repressed and socially inferior beings.

When they stumble across the Instagram account of Earth’s social influencer Miss Candy Carcrashian they attempt to kidnap her.

With depictions of nudity and genitalia, this puppet show is not for the kiddies, faint-hearted or church social groups. ●

Melbourne Fringe Festival turns 40

WORDS BY *Carol Saffer*
ARTS & CULTURE

The 2022 Melbourne Fringe Festival theme “it’s about time” is appropriate for an event that has 40 years of history to celebrate and three lost years to make up for due to COVID.

This year’s first in-person Fringe Festival kicks off with an enormous free opening night 40th birthday party on October 6 and runs through to Friday, October 23.

Melbourne Fringe creative director and CEO Simon Abrahams said the expanded program of new exhibitions, dynamic public art and brand-new art precincts made it the most ambitious festival.

“Through this festival, we’re writing a history of the future,” he said.

“We’ve centered free events as our birthday gift back to the city, including free participatory public artworks and, of course, the return of our iconic Fringe Parade.”

On Saturday, October 15, from 3pm, join or watch the parade of community groups, marching bands, trade unionists, dog walkers, drag queens, fashionistas and the public, march along Lygon St from Faraday St to Argyle Square.

The Square is the scene for a block party that will rock on until late, with two live stages featuring Fringe acts and live music, roving entertainers, and a reprisal of the famed Waiters’ Race that will keep the celebrations going.

Executive officer of Carlton Inc Phillip Mansour said, “The Lygon St traders are in for a great surprise.”

“We haven’t seen the street closed like this for a long time; it will be invigorating for the area and the start of many more events like this,” he said.

With a long list of exhibitions and performances by

extraordinary artists and organisations, there are more than 450 events planned for clubs, theatres, galleries, computer screens, parks, and bars of Melbourne.

The return of the Festival Hub at Trades Hall is greatly anticipated as well as the introduction of a Festival Park at Queen Victoria Market.

A taste of what to expect at Trades Hall ranges from Georgia Kate Bell’s *Babecity Hotline* and Miss Cairo’s *Breasts Become Her to English Breakfast* by AJ Lamarque and Bonkel Theatre’s puppet performance *I once was a tree*, along with many other acts and performances.

Deadly Fringe, Melbourne Fringe’s First Nations program, features brand-new works by senior and established First Nations artists exploring time, past, present, and future concepts.

Productions by LGBTQIA+ artists, including 290 trans and gender diverse artists, account for more than 51 per cent of the shows at the festival, while 238 deaf and disabled artists make up 13 per cent of festival events.

Minister for Creative Industries Steve Dimopoulos said, “throughout its 40-year history, Melbourne Fringe has provided a platform for so many of Australia’s artists and creative leaders, allowing our independent creative community to take risks and bring their work to the legendary Fringe audience.”

“The flow-on effects of hundreds of festival-goers each night enjoying the city and its restaurants and bars will be enormous.” ●

For more information:
melbournefringe.com.au

Hareruya Pantry makes Lincoln Square shine

Hareruya Pantry (pronounced “Hallelujah” and Japanese for “sunny shop”) is a sun-dappled convenience store connecting Melbourne with specialty house-made Japanese gelato, pastries, bento, onigiri, sando and drinks.

WORDS BY Carol Saffer

Located on Lincoln Square, their customers crowd the store and wait patiently in long queues.

Hareruya Pantry is part of the TSUNAGU Project, a community of creative individuals with a passion for sharing stories through food and drinks.

TSUNAGU means “to connect” – the project wants to connect Melbourne people with Japanese culture.

Front of house manager Haruka Yamamoto said, “Our mission is to create an environment where people can come together and enjoy great company, delicious food, and tasty drinks.”

“We believe that when people come together and share in each other’s experiences, they form stronger connections that lead to more meaningful relationships,” she said.

“We are committed to creating an experience that will leave you feeling inspired, connected, and excited about the future.”

The experience combines a clean and crisp aesthetic featuring local design and craftwork.

Hareruya Pantry is a Melbourne-style convenience store known as “combi” in Japanese.

“In Japan, a combi is part of everyone’s life, you pop in and grab what you want, and this is what we try to encapsulate in Hareruya Pantry,” Ms Yamamoto said.

“We seem very popular for our gelato, but we



also have bento boxes, rice bowls and Japanese sandwiches.”

Expanding the TSUNAGU Project is very slow, with one shop per year. Almost three years ago, the first store, 279, opened in West Melbourne.

It is known for its musubi, also known as onigiri, the Japanese equivalent of a classic Aussie sandwich. A rice triangle with a filling or topping wrapped up in a piece of nori (seaweed).

About a year later, North Melbourne’s La Bajo Milkbar opened featuring a strange mix of vintage Australian goods, delicious Japanese sandwiches, pastries and quality coffee and house-crafted items ranging from freshly-baked shokupan (Japanese milk

bread) to seasonal jams and sodas.

In April 2022, Hareruya Pantry opened close to the university sector with a significant impact on the students and the vibrant energy in the square.

The benchmark of the TSUNAGU Project’s success at the three stores is one of the community responses, particularly face-to-face communication.

Ms Yamamoto said, “We are not very good at social media, but we are very good at getting feedback from our customers; we love a good chat.”

“It is authentic having a customer come back to the pantry and tell us, ‘I loved this last time’; this makes our day.”

The project believes there are so many

different communities in Melbourne who love their surroundings and food that it shines in the inner city.

“It would be interesting to see what would happen if we opened a store in the ‘burbs’,” Ms Yamamoto said. “It would be completely different to the ethos here in the inner city.”

“Students, tourists and Carlton residents make up a large part of our customer base in our neighbourhood, and that’s where combinis are located.” ●

For more information:
hareruya.com.au

“Dipping your toes” into the world of horse racing

“The world of thoroughbred horse racing is one of luck, pageantry, and immense value to the Victorian economy.”

”

WORDS BY Jack Hayes

According to the latest Victorian Racing Industry Size and Scope report, our state’s racing industry generates nearly \$3.2 billion in value for the economy, it employs more than 25,000 full-time workers and provides \$1.7 billion per annum in household income.

Entering an industry of this magnitude can be overwhelming, but, as East Melbourne local and leading racehorse syndicator Rob Slade will tell you, it is one filled with immense reward and passion.

He first founded Slade Bloodstock 25 years ago after dipping his toes in horse ownership through syndication.

“My clients come from all walks of life. I don’t have a demographic where you go, that’s our ideal audience. You can have the boiler maker or the lawyer, all gambits of life from all parts of Australia,” Mr Slade said.

“Investing in a horse is just one part of it, there is the social side which is one of the biggest drawcards, and it is a great opportunity for

business networking.”

“The beauty is anyone can get involved in racing and the sky is the limit; you could have the next Black Caviar, the next Makybe Diva or the next Winx – somebody has to own them.”

The Slade Bloodstock colours of white with black and yellow hoops rose to prominence in racing circles with the success of Alinghi – a four-time Group One winning horse, including the 2004 Blue Diamond Stakes and the 2005 Newmarket Handicap.

In total, Alinghi netted its owners more than \$3.5 million in prize money; not bad for a horse that only cost \$80,000 as a yearling (a horse older than one).

After trading in a life as an accountant in 1997, Mr Slade has grown his business into one of the top 10 syndicators in the country and has developed a fine eye for picking great horses.

“There is a lot to look at in a horse. You want a horse that is athletic, a good leg on it, good length of body,” he said.

“You begin to know physically what you want in a horse; after all you are buying the equine version of a human athlete.”

Mr Slade cut his teeth in the early 2000s with Australian Racing Hall of Fame trainer, Lee Freedman.

Readers will know Freedman through his training of arguably Australia’s most successful horse, the three-time Melbourne Cup winning, Makybe Diva.

Mr Slade purchases around 10 horses each year and is currently putting the call out for shares in Brazen Beau; a Nick Ryan-trained colt by Super Vobis and Inglis Series.

Five and 10 per cent shares cost \$6500 and \$13,000, respectively, and ongoing costs can range between \$150 to \$180 per month.

Nick has only been training for a few years but is a great young horseman and his horses are



on fire at the moment,” Mr Slade said. “You have to recognise someone who is at the top of their game and also that someone is going to attract attention from potential owners.”

“As well as owning a horse, it does educate you from a different perspective in relation to racing, you will see racing differently and if you are a punter, you will see it far differently.”

“If you go in with the right attitude, eyes wide open and go in knowing that it’s a terrific vehicle for social networking, you don’t know where it can lead you.”

Mr Slade is also finalising the paperwork to launch Club Millions No. 1 Ltd, a three-year racing club aimed at winning Magic Millions

races, and of course any others along the way. It involves only 250 members who pay a \$1000 joining fee and \$320 per month for one year, with the second and third years free.

Investors will then have access to three horses – one each from Victoria, Queensland and New South Wales – purchased at the 2023 Magic Millions sales on the Gold Coast in January.

The horses will be trained by acclaimed trainers Annabel Neesham (NSW/QLD), Ciaran Maher and David Eustace (VIC/NSW) and Tony Gollan (QLD).

To speak with Rob about owning a share of city calibre racehorses call 0417 036 865 or visit sladebloodstock.com.au. ●

The world's biggest fitness brand in Carlton

With more than 530 clubs nationwide, Anytime Fitness is a giant of the fitness industry.

WORDS BY *Jack Hayes*

According to American magazine and website, *Entrepreneur*, its 4000-plus clubs globally rank it the ninth largest in the world, mixing it with franchise heavyweights like KFC, 7-Eleven and McDonald's.

With such a monumental presence across the world, it would be easy to assume its two-and-a-half million global members would become just that, a number.

But as co-owner of Anytime Fitness Carlton Phil Edwards has seen first-hand, it is his team's personal approach that is embedding its roots in the local community.

"The response since opening in 2015 has been phenomenal which has been great to see," Mr Edwards said. "The club has been incredibly popular among residents and students alike and has recently gone through a complete refurbishment (December 2021)."

"It's a bit of a hidden gem, you wouldn't know it was there if you weren't looking for it, but it has been exceptionally successful club and great place to work out for locals."

Anytime Fitness Carlton is located at 551 Swanston St, Carlton and is one of four clubs from Mr Edwards and his business partner, Julie Mazzarella, who have more than four decades of combined experience working in the health and fitness industry.

Since opening the club in May 2015, Mr Edwards has formed partnerships with local businesses and institutions like the University of Melbourne and its colleges.

Now, with more than seven years of service to the community under their belt, Mr Edwards told *Inner City News* the convenience of 24/7 access, state-of-the-art equipment, and inclusivity for all members, "no matter your body type,



▲ Anytime Fitness Carlton co-owner Phil Edwards.

Photo: Murray Enders.

fitness level, ability, gender or background," is what attracts people to our club.

"There can be a fear of the unknown for first timers joining the fitness community, and with so many options out there, it's a matter of picking the right fit for the individual," Mr Edwards said.

"So, to have a personal touch, where our members are treated like a person not a number and are greeted when they come in and when they leave is incredibly important to us."

"Our members mean the world to us, their

health and safety matter to us, we are here to hold their hand every step of their journey, no matter what that journey happens to be."

"We want our members to have the feel of belonging to something. Belonging to a community that is focused on achieving their goals."

Anytime Fitness Carlton boasts a huge range of state-of-the-art equipment, multiple training zones, functional training zones, individual showers, separate toilets, a beauty bar – where you can use hair dryers and straighteners – individual showers and bathrooms and gives



members the ability to use their membership at any of the 4000-plus locations worldwide.

"For our members, convenience is everything. We love the fact that we can remove any barriers they may have in wishing to exercise, while having access not only to their home club but also any Anytime Fitness club in Australia or overseas," Mr Edwards said.

"Also included in every membership is access to the Anytime Fitness app where we further support our members with education on training and nutrition. Also included is rewards program where you are rewarded the more you work out."

Anytime Fitness Carlton Tenancy 2, SQ Retail, 551 Swanston St, Carlton. ●

For more information:
anytimefitness.com.au/gyms/au-1381/carlton-vic-3053

The best MCG seats in the house are officially opened to the public

Fine dining with a view is taken to a whole new level when it comes to the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG) dining rooms and now, thanks to a recent partnership, the experience has become one for all.

WORDS BY *Kaylah-Joelle Baker*

Appointed for a seven-year term by Melbourne Cricket Club (MCC) as the MCG's hospitality partner late last year, Delaware North started making the large stadium its own from February this year.

Delaware North is a global award-winning leader when it comes to hospitality, venue management, and food service, and to help expand the MCG's reach they have partnered with a multitude of chefs to create elevated menus and experiences.

Among one of the main attractions is the recent partnership with renowned Italian chef and foodie Guy Grossi in the Committee Room.

A hidden secret until now, the Committee Room by Grossi is not only an experience to be enjoyed and marvelled upon by MCC members, but also any non-members seeking an elegant dining experience.



While reflecting on the new initiative that will see his home-inspired dishes on the tables of many visitors, Mr Grossi gave a nod of approval to being at the MCG.

"It's a fantastic setting with [the] backdrop being the beautiful, hallowed ground of the MCG," he said.

From oysters served with a fennel pinzimonio dressing to cured kingfish pizzaiola, and wagyu bresaola with stracchino cheese and pickled vegetable giardiniera, it is clear to see the antipasto dishes are just a glimpse of the mouth-watering delicacies to come.

Before going onto the secondi selection, it is



an Italian must to spend time indulging on the pasta dishes on offer, and with Mr Grossi's own personal favourite, duck and porcini mushroom tortellini, on the menu there really is no room for complaints.

"One of my favourite things on the menu is the tortellini with pear, and just a hint of duck through it – and it came from an accident really," Mr Grossi said.

"We had some left-over roast duck one day and decided to create a pasta dish out of it, and it's been a staple ever since. It's like eating a roast duck dinner, but in a beautiful tortellini – a pasta parcel – what a great package."

The culinary experience only continues the further you work your way down the menu into the secondi selections. All around the \$40 mark, the dishes are giving you your money's worth in flavour. From King George whiting fillets rolled up with a breadcrumb, pine nut, and sultana filling, to another one of Mr Grossi's specialties known as the Abbacchio alla Romana – wet roasted lamb shoulder with white wine, parmigiano, rosemary and sage.

As a venue that requires a long attendance, the Committee Room by Grossi is the place to sit back, look out at the grounds and wait until you are ready to finish the meal with some dessert.

"If you are a sweet tooth, you can't go past our world-famous tiramisu. It was my mum's recipe, and we haven't ever changed it," Mr Grossi said.

Brought out in a wide bowl, and carefully cut by the welcoming and inviting staff that continue to make each visitor feel at home, the tiramisu provides a feeling of home comfort and is of the highest quality.

The Committee Room by Grossi is open Tuesday to Friday for lunch from 12pm, and in true Italian-style they ask for visitors to make the most of their attendance through lingering over the lunch that is cooked with love, and to make memories with family and friends. ●

For more information:
mcgevents.com.au



Live on a food parcel for a week and help raise much needed money for CAN Community Support's Emergency Relief programs.

Scan the QR code for details on how to sign up, where your donations will go, and other FAQs about the Food Parcel Challenge.

We can't wait to have you onboard!



CAN Community Support



Business advisor loves Carlton

Sergio Alderuccio has a long and strong connection with Carlton.

WORDS BY Carol Saffer

It is the base for his advisory business; he loves the vibrancy of the Lygon St strip and the heritage of the suburb and its architecture.

He is a board member and vice president of Carlton Inc., the local traders' association.

While he doesn't like the term "business coach", that is what he is; a mentor to business owner-operators.

"I work one-on-one with my clients, on a weekly or fortnightly basis, to provide accountability, guidance and expertise," Mr Alderuccio said.

"Successful people work hard, but there is a limit to how many hours you can work and still be productive."

"I help my clients succeed by working smarter, not harder."

Mr Alderuccio was a pioneer of franchising in Australia. He was 23 when he created and ran a consultancy that developed businesses such as Crust Pizza, Forty Winks, Autobarn, and many more in a franchise business model.

Twenty-five years later, he sold the business to top tier professional services network PWC.

"I still love the business side of working with people," he said.

"My role is to help the business owners to get to where they want to go."

Mr Alderuccio works with business owners to help them grow their businesses and have more freedom.

He provides an outside viewpoint and acts as a sounding board.



Because he is not involved in the day-to-day running of the client's business, he can be objective and calm about decision-making, independent of the business but understanding what the company is all about.

He emphasises building solid relationships.

"Many people don't do this, but I think this is a key as it helps you get things done when needed," he said.

He is one of those "men in lycra" getting up at 5am to ride every morning.

Even with an early start, he wonders where his time goes; could it be the stop to have coffee with his mates?

"It sets me up for the day, gets my mind in place, and I like being composed when I arrive at the office each day."

Mr Alderuccio's role at Carlton Inc is responsible for the beautification and accessibility of Lygon St and the surrounding area.

He works on a sub-committee with other board members to make Lygon St more enjoyable and safer.

He is impressed with Victoria Police's assistance and physical presence on the street; "they don't just give us lip service," he said.

"We are a multicultural society now and need to be relevant to a wide section of the community." ●

Spring is in the air

“

As a large gathering of 45 guests assembled at the Henderson home for September Morning Tea, that spring feelin' was in the air. New attendees Norva Lo, Andrew Brennan and Bill Damm were welcomed.

”

Sue Henderson updated the group on the following issues:

- The Lidgerwoods donated \$500 from their recent musical evening to the The Humble Mission, a charity supported by East Melbourne General Store.
 - A documentary film *The Lost City of Melbourne* is having a limited release at various cinemas, including Kino and the Nova (\$5 deal – check the website).
 - The East Melbourne Group and East Melbourne Neighbourhood Network (EMNN) are planning a joint Christmas Picnic at Bishops Court on Saturday, December 17, 2pm to 5pm. A submission has been made to the City of Melbourne for a grant to assist. Any volunteers interested in helping to organise the event would be greatly appreciated. Email emnn3002@gmail.com if you can help.
 - The 40 kph speed zones will be unveiled between September 12 and 15 through the suburb, initially with mobile flashing signage to warn motorists.
 - An informal gathering at the George St Cafe was held at the end of August to celebrate 10 years in the business for Michael – including the trying COVID lockdown period.
- Rei Chin is the new Neighbourhood Partner at the City of Melbourne and gave a presentation on the establishment of neighbourhood portals for all the suburban locations in the City of Melbourne, an initiative started following consultation with community during the past 12 months. There was also discussion on a range of matters, including:
- the need for more community spaces, especially indoor ones;
 - the need for EV charging stations;
 - the Powlett Reserve outdoor gymnasium area (still being looked at);
 - the use of the pavilion in the Fitzroy Gardens;
 - the need for social networks to mitigate isolation, exacerbated in lockdown periods; Rei said she was looking at a range of means of getting better connection, including young people and long-term renters;
 - anti-social behaviour in the suburb;
 - safety on roads and parking issues;

- more low-floor trams through the suburb for people with mobility issues; and
- garden bed maintenance in Darling Square.

Rei sent this message after the meeting following up on a query relating to garden beds at Darling Square: "Haydn, our senior park operations officer inspected the garden bed and have asked Serco to feed and mulch the bed. They had been recently planted and seem to be suffering from the cold but hopefully with a bit of care, it'll blossom in spring."

The morning concluded with a violin solo from David Rosenberg from Bamberg who is in Melbourne from Germany on a musical exchange. The performance was an unexpected delight and Sue Henderson showed her versatility and gift for improvisation by acting as the music stand for David in the absence of an actual music stand.

The next meeting will be at Sue and Terry's, 67 Grey St, on Friday, October 14 at 10.30am.

Term 4 health and wellbeing program of activities will begin in October

Enrolments are now open for all classes including:

Monday: Health Qigong – 9am to 10am; Chair Yoga – 10.30am to 11.30am; Gentle Yoga: 5.30pm to 6.30pm Book Group (evening).

Tuesday: Walking Group: 8.30am to 9.30am; Pilates: 9am to 10am; Tai Chi – 10.30am to 11.30am

Thursday: Pilates: 9am to 10am; 10.30am to 11.30am; Ukulele – 3pm to 4pm

Friday: Gentle Exercise – 9.30am to 10.30am; 10.45am to 11.45am

A new pre/post natal pilates class is currently being planned. If you would like further information, please make contact via email.

Celebrate life through music

Thanks to all those who have expressed interest in joining the proposed Community Choir which we hope to commence in early 2023.

We have applied for a community grant from the City of Melbourne to assist with the establishment of the choir and will update interested members as soon as we firm up details.

The choir aims to be an un-auditioned, mixed-voice, inclusive community choir to be located in East Melbourne. The aim is to create an environment for local people to meet, participate and enjoy singing together as a group. Research has shown that singing in a choir can strengthen feelings of togetherness, reduce stress levels, and regulate heart rate and improve feelings of social wellbeing. We'd love to hear your voice, so drop us an email if you are interested in joining.

Your ideas and involvement are important

As always, new ideas are sought from the community as we wish to provide additional meaningful, fun, and engaging activities for all age groups. Any resident, of any age, who would like to get involved – the EMNN would love to hear from you.

Your ideas and involvement will help strengthen our community and enhance the health and wellbeing of all neighbours.

Contact: Sue Henderson or Ann-Maree Eckersley at emnn3002@gmail.com ●

Old Men's Shelter

We usually think of public buildings as large and imposing structures such as town halls or railway stations, but at Powlett Reserve in East Melbourne, there is situated possibly one of the smallest public buildings in Melbourne.

The building is known as the Old Men's Shelter and is on the register of Heritage Victoria. It is Heritage Victoria's report that has provided most of the information for this article.

During the 19th century the elderly were largely looked after by family or friends, or failing this, by charity. It was not until 1909 that the federal government introduced an old age pension. This gave the elderly poor some independence and the ability to provide themselves with permanent, if cheap, accommodation.

This coincided with a time when wealthy homeowners were moving out of the inner suburbs to broader acres further afield. Many family homes in East Melbourne became cheap, and increasingly run-down, rooming houses providing the new pensioners with a bed for the night. Cramped rooms and lack of communal facilities meant that residents were usually discouraged, even banned, from staying inside during the daylight hours, forcing them to spend their days in local parks and other public places.

As a result, a group of elderly men, living in West Melbourne, asked the council for permission to use a disused children's shelter in the Flagstaff Gardens as a club house. This proved to be such a success that the idea of purpose-built old men's shelters was born. From the late 1930s the council proceeded to build a number of such shelters around the inner city. Only two of these now survive: one in Curtain Square in Carlton and the other in Powlett Reserve.

The latter was built at the request of local residents and is an indication of the extent of the social problems in the local area at the time. These problems had been increased by the preceding years of economic depression, but so also had public awareness of the problems increased, and a desire for reform.

The buildings were utilitarian in nature but solidly built and nicely designed and detailed. There was no shame in entering one of these structures. They provided welcoming meeting places, giving shelter, but more importantly,



▲ Old Men's Shelter, 2012.

Photo: Sylvia Black.

companionship and moral support. They were open from 9am to 10pm each day but there were rules: no animals, bicycles, alcohol, intoxicated persons, gambling, offensive language or the delivery of public addresses. The shelters are now regarded as the forerunners of elderly citizens' clubs.

The shelter in Powlett Reserve is typical of them all. It was built in 1939 by W.J. Newman for £610. The architect was Eric N Beilby, the City Architect at the time. Heritage Victoria recognises him as a "significant architect within the public building realm". It is a small, single-storey brick building with a steep, hipped roof of terracotta shingle tiles. For such a small building its front facade exhibits particularly decorative and attractive brickwork and is regarded as a notable example of the period.

Inside there is a small entrance foyer. On the left is a bench with a lift up lid, used for storing firewood; and on the right a store room. Beyond is one big single room about five square metres in size. A bench runs around three sides, once providing seating for at least 20 men. Once there was a pot belly stove in the middle of the room. Its chimney remains intact and is a dominant feature of the little building. Wood was supplied by the council. The interior has painted brick walls and a timber ceiling.

When the Old Men's Shelter ceased operations the building became a depot for council workers. Now it has a new life as the headquarters of the East Melbourne Group, our local residents' action group, and so continues its place in the social history of East Melbourne.

Sylvia Black, secretary, East Melbourne Historical Society
emhs.org.au. and info@emhs.org.au ●

MELBOURNE ZOO

Celebrating 160 years and International Zookeeper Day



Spring is in the air and celebrations are well and truly in full swing at Melbourne Zoo, as Zoos Victoria celebrates 160 years of wildlife conservation and its dedicated zookeepers.



The 160th anniversary celebrations coincide with International Zookeeper Day on October 4, with zookeepers of all ages and experiences reminiscing and sharing stories about their passion for animal care and conservation.

Following his first year working at both Healesville Sanctuary and Melbourne Zoo, Australian bush keeper Kody Davidson said the opportunity to work with a variety of different animals and local threatened species was inspiring.

"I started at Healesville Sanctuary, which was a wonderful place to learn the ropes," Kody said.

"Working with the threatened species team was one of the most rewarding experiences I've ever had. We were all working towards the same goal – protecting animals that are facing extinction in the wild, like the Mountain Pygmy-possum. It's an incredibly unifying thing to share with each other."

From an early age, Kody said he was fascinated by the natural world. As he grew up, this evolved into a deep love and compassion for animals, leading him to study biological science.



"I always loved animals and wanted to work with them," Kody said.

Kody pursued his passion for wildlife with stints at Wildlife Victoria and the RSPCA before landing a job as a keeper at Zoos Victoria last year.

"I couldn't have asked for a better first year. The people I work with are amazing. Their dedication to animals is inspiring. I especially love talking to the senior keepers. Some of them have been working for Zoos Victoria for more than 30 years and they have some amazing stories and experiences to share."

Zoos Victoria senior manager of animal care and conservation Justine Felix, who began her own zookeeping career more than 15 years ago, said keepers like Kody were the future of

zoo-based conservation.

"We have many wonderful keepers with varied experiences and backgrounds at Zoos Victoria," Justine said. "There are also some new keepers, like Kody, who are starting their careers at such an exciting time. Zoos, as we know them, have evolved from their early days of being places where you just come to see an interesting animal with the family, to today being true conservation organisations."

"Even since I started zookeeping 15 years ago, we have seen some incredible progress and that progress is only going to build in the years to come."

International Zookeeper Day is an annual event that aims to shine a light on the important

"Working with the threatened species team was one of the most rewarding experiences I've ever had. We were all working towards the same goal – protecting animals that are facing extinction in the wild, like the Mountain Pygmy-possum. It's an incredibly unifying thing to share with each other."



work of zookeepers around the world and their vital role in wildlife conservation.

Melbourne Zoo first opened its gates on October 6, 1862. To mark the 160th celebrations, Melbourne Zoo has launched a retrospective photography exhibition that depicts Zoos Victoria's history and the passionate wildlife experts who have helped transform the organisation into a world-leading conservation hub. ●

INNER CITY LOCAL

From University High School to Naughtons the long way

Naughtons is such an institution in Parkville that there is no need to add "Hotel".

WORDS BY Carol Saffer

History shows that Naughtons was established as the Port Phillip Agricultural Hotel and commenced trading in 1873 when Parkville was still rural in character.

At nearly 150 years of age, the white building at 43 Royal Parade has stood the test of time with a reputation well known in the area as a place of conviviality and hospitality, not unlike Ryan Moses, one of its co-owners.

Mr Moses, a University High Alumni, took a circular route from the school grounds via London to the corner of Morrah St.

He fell into hospitality due to a close family friend owning a winery on the Mornington Peninsula, where he started working as a teenager during school holidays.

"With a restaurant on site, I did the dishes and almost anything else," he said. "It was the slippery slope from them to hospitality and the pub."

"I started three degrees and didn't finish any of them."

He realised then that hospitality was the place life was dragging him to.

The Naughton family owned and ran the hotel from the early 1900s until 2000.

Mr Moses said the hotel's heyday was the 1960s to 1970s when more than 500 Melbourne University students, staff and lecturers drank, smoked, and even conducted classes.

"This seems to be where the fondest memories come from," he said.

He described his current customer base as



"the three pillars".

"Firstly, there are the locals, then the university's staff, students and lecturers, and finally the hospital and research professionals from down the road; it is probably a third of each," he said.

One of the most significant changes to hospitality occurred when he ran a pub in England, in the days when everyone smoked.

"The pub always had a thick cloud of smoke; overnight, the law changed, and smoking was banned," he said.

He saw this as a massive change to how the industry worked, resulting in a significant shift towards food; customers' tastes, preferences and knowledge have grown.

"Back 20 years ago, it was tough to sell pinot noir, and now it is our best-selling red



Firstly, there are the locals, then the university's staff, students and lecturers, and finally the hospital and research professionals from down the road; it is probably a third of each



wine variety."

The customer is now educated, knowledgeable, engaged and interested.

The hotel has live music on a Sunday afternoon which changes the atmosphere.

He has small kids, and "my little guy will get up and just start dancing around".

It is a family-friendly venue; on any given day, there would be 20 per cent of the tables with kids seated at them.

All the beers on tap are Victorian craft brews with Carlton Draught as the backup for the everyday no-fuss drinker.

His philosophy towards the customer is not one of being there to educate.

"It is more to help them find what they like within our offering," he said. "People are here to have a good time, not to be lectured."

"We have had the pub six years, another 16 left on the lease, and I hope to retire from here." ●

PARKVILLE ASSOCIATION

September issues in Parkville

People often wonder how or even why local associations exist and then wonder how to fix issues that arise in their suburb.

Prior to 2001 there were “ward” councillors who had an interest in looking after the residents in their ward. Even with local councillors, the Parkville Association was formed in 1967 after a threat that same year by the Hospital and Charities Commission to resume most of Levers Reserve and demolish the surrounding homes. A more serious threat in 1970 would have seen the razing of a large area between Storey and Morrah streets.

Both struggles were eventually won but in order to discourage any further incursions, the association decided to seek National Trust classification for the whole area of South Parkville. Many members contributed to a detailed survey of the area, photographing each building and recording its origin from the early, hand-written rate books. With this documentation, Hilary Lewis put together a submission which was accepted by the National Trust (now edited and published as a book).

South Parkville became the first classified metropolitan area in Australia, a status later given legal force by inclusion in the State Historic Register. No more large-scale demolition projects were possible, but the association continues to advise, negotiate and occasionally fight battles to preserve the historic integrity of South Parkville and prevent unsuitable development over its entire area.

For those long-term residents there is a great understanding of the heritage protection and many of our recent residents buy in Parkville to enjoy the wonderful Victorian homes and the heritage streetscapes.

In the meantime, there are still challenges – a recent example being the building at the corner of Royal Parade and Morrah St. Built in 1923 the current owners wanted to demolish and develop a clinic on the site.

Following extensive lobbying, the council refused their planning application. Our association members and others worked as a team and raised more than 150 objections. Suburbs without active associations have difficulty overcoming such issues.

The issues can sometimes be as simple as parking or a neighbourhood dispute, but the association is always there to assist! This month alone committee members have attended several meetings with council or residents to ensure we all live in a friendly environment.

The council now recognises the importance of associations and hosts a quarterly meeting of “Presidents of Residents’ Groups” to discuss council issues and, of course, those raised by residents.

From my perspective it has been a learning curve seeing how other groups work and the camaraderie we have built up. The Lord Mayor and Deputy Lord Mayor always participate and host the meetings.

Parkville has probably the oldest association now being 55 years old and we are always here for our residents and local businesses.

Talking of great contributors to the association, Norah Killip – our local historian, preserver of heritage and a genuine Parkvillian (her family over many generations lived in Parkville) – turns 90 on October 12. From all of us, we wish Norah a very happy birthday and thank her for maintaining our rich history!

With our sesquicentennial next year, your association will help you all celebrate the history of our great suburb! ●



Rob Moore
PRESIDENT
PRESIDENT@PARKVILLEASSOCIATION.GMAIL.COM

METRO TUNNEL

Rail installation to start soon at Parkville Station

“*The Metro Tunnel Project is about to take another step towards completion, as crews prepare to start laying the first rail in the tunnels in the coming weeks.*”

Work is progressing on the initial track layer of 4000 concrete panels through the tunnels. The panels have been cast in 300 different shapes to account for the varying curvature and elevation of the twin nine-kilometre tunnels, winding from Kensington to South Yarra.

This will create an even base to lay the near 40km of Australian-made rail on, ensuring it is properly aligned.

The state-of-the-art concrete panels – similar to track used in other world class metro systems – require significantly less maintenance compared to conventional surface railway tracks, which use sleepers laid on ballast.

The rail has arrived on freight trains in two deliveries over the course of the year – one at each of the tunnel entrances.

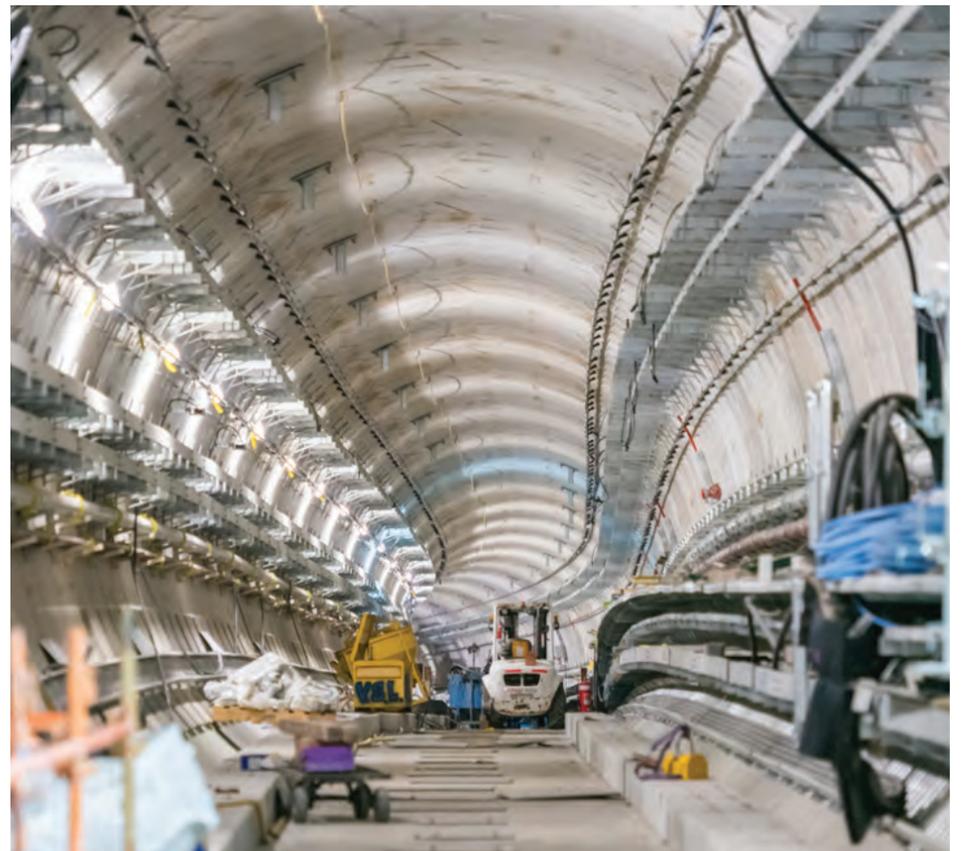
Workers will progressively clip the 165-metre lengths of steel to the concrete panels and weld them together to form a continuous line.

Once overhead power and the new high-tech signalling is installed in the tunnels and stations, along with more than two kilometres of platform screen doors, testing will begin in the tunnels with Melbourne’s new fleet of bigger, more modern trains in 2023.

It’s all part of the massive construction progress taking place at Parkville – and the four other Metro Tunnel stations – in recent months.

Three escalators have been installed at the station’s Grattan St main entrance, and initial work has started on the signature 54-metre long, 6.5-metre wide canopy, which will sit about 22 metres above concourse level.

The steel and glass canopy will create the largest skylight across all five of the project’s



Once overhead power and the new high-tech signalling is installed in the tunnels and stations, along with more than two kilometres of platform screen doors, testing will begin in the tunnels with Melbourne’s new fleet of bigger, more modern trains in 2023.

new underground stations.

Parkville Station will be on the doorstep of Victoria’s world-renowned education, health and research precinct, providing rail access to the University of Melbourne, The Royal Melbourne Hospital, the Royal Women’s Hospital and Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre for the first time.

The two Grattan St entrances – the main

entrance opposite Barry St and a second on the corner of Royal Parade – will provide direct access to The University of Melbourne.

Two more entrances will give people direct access to hospitals on the western side of Royal Parade, with one entrance outside Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre and another on the doorstep of The Royal Melbourne Hospital. ●

CARLTON ROTARY

Pat Cronin Foundation

“*Pat Cronin Foundation partnerships manager Steve Layt spoke at a recent meeting of the Rotary Club of Carlton.*”

WORDS BY *Ian Ada - President*

The foundation was established by Pat’s family in the wake of his death from a single punch to the back of the head while assisting a friend in danger, resulting in a skull fracture. Two days later, Pat’s family tragically had to make the agonising decision to turn off his life support.

Steve spoke about, and showed a video, how the tragedy is affecting the Cronin family, their friends and the wider community forever. The Pat Cronin Foundation believes that social violence does not have to remain a part of Australia’s culture, rather that it is something

that is preventable.

The title of Steve’s presentation was “Let’s end the Coward Punch”.

Steve noted that Pat will always be 19 years old. He will never have another birthday, or play another footy game, or finish studying health science and physiotherapy under the scholarship he was awarded.

The Pat Cronin Foundation provides an optimistic voice and empowering approach to awareness, education and research about social violence among young people. It works with schools, clubs and community groups to make positive change.

Steve Layt is the partnerships manager with the foundation, and first came across Pat as his coach at the Lower Plenty Football Club.

A “Be Wise” presentation has been developed for secondary schools in consultation with teachers, psychologists, researchers, community members and parents to bring a whole community approach to learning important wellbeing lessons. It covers Pat’s story, anger and aggression, strategies for violence prevention, and the consequences of violence.

Steve said the foundation expected to talk to 500 groups this year, 400 of which were schools and 100 were community groups.

For more information: patcroninfoundation.org.au

Neighbourhood House

In the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Rotary Club of Carlton provided \$1000 to the North Carlton Railway Neighbourhood House to contribute to stocking the pantry the centre had set up to support families in economic stress.

Our club has more recently been identifying ways our members can volunteer to support the work of “The House” in a range of their activities.

These include mentoring individual clients, helping clients negotiate forms used by government agencies, and ferrying children to after school activities.

However more volunteers are always needed and welcome, but in almost all situations will require a Working with Children Check. More information can be found at railwayneighbourhoodhouse.org.au

Next meeting

The Rotary Club of Carlton has commenced meeting on the third Tuesday of each month at Naughtons Hotel, Royal Parade, Parkville beginning at 6.30pm. If you would like to join us on October 18, or any other month, to find out a little more about Rotary, please contact Paul Kruspe on 0423 025 962 or pkruspe@gmail.com and we would make you most welcome. ●

For the state government, housing is about revenue – not a human right



The Victorian State Election will be held on Saturday, November 26 this year and we will be hearing a lot about housing between now and then.



Lobby groups for private businesses have already come out swinging condemning a range of taxes. They oppose the windfall tax on profits made when landowners have their land rezoned for redevelopment; want stamp duty abolished on home purchases and replaced with an annual land tax; and don't want a return to the levy proposed last year on new housing projects that would fund extra community housing across Victoria.

Victorian Governments have had a historic reliance on revenue from dwelling sales and, in the absence of other sources of revenue to stamp duty being raised, the Labor Party will probably not go to the election with a plan to dump stamp duty altogether. Home buyers may be offered an option of stamp duty or annual tax, as has happened in NSW for first home buyers.

The public debate is all only about government revenue. Nothing is being said that housing should be a human right.

Regional Victoria and Melbourne suburbs have an escalating housing affordability crisis

If you have the money already or can access it through loans, you can buy housing in the private market and force the eviction of those

who have been renting it into homelessness, having to live in their cars, caravans, in tents or on the streets.

Melbourne has lost many households as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic as workers realised they don't have to be in the city to work remotely if that was what they were already doing, or their employer is supporting ongoing remote work arrangements.

In a recent article by the ABC assessing the rental crisis identified the factors driving it. Seven were nominated:

- The "race for space" has shrunk the average household size, creating more households.
- Chronic undersupply of social housing has pushed higher numbers of vulnerable Australians into the private rental market.
- Australians are renting for longer because they can't afford to buy. This worsened during the pandemic, which sent property prices soaring.
- Investment weakened throughout the pandemic. Some investors cashed out during the pandemic price boom, reducing the supply of rental properties.
- International students and overseas migrants are beginning to return, adding pressure to an already strained rental market.
- Some landlords may be passing the cost of higher interest rates onto tenants (although this is made possible by low vacancy rates.
- As tourism recovers, more investors are leasing their properties on short-term letting sites such as Airbnb.

We need a plan to make housing a human right in Victoria – start with a rent freeze

Instead of simply talking up and working for a return of international students and more migrants, governments should be held responsible for ensuring it won't further impact on rents in Victoria.

I support a rent freeze for the whole state for at least two years and an assessment of what to do after that period. A rent freeze should



include public and community housing. The recent increases in social security payments – woefully inadequate as they are – should not be an opportunity for these landlords to take away 25 to 30 per cent of the increases in additional rent.

A rent freeze can be the first step in developing a plan for having housing as a human right in Victoria.

All current projects for demolition of public housing should be abandoned. Their redevelopments after four years have delivered no new public housing and is all about substituting it with higher than public housing rent community housing, full or slightly discounted market priced rental housing and dwellings for

homeowners and investors.

We need a new state parliament after the November election made up of MPs committed to housing as a human right and enough in numbers to force a new government to put it in place and negotiate with the federal government to provide substantial funding to make it happen. ●



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CARLTON HISTORY

Origins of the Carlton Football Club

Carlton's famous football club, the "Blues", has been in existence for more than 150 years.

Founded in 1864, it was one of the dominant clubs in the early days of Australian rules football in Melbourne.

According to its first annual report, published in 1865, the club grew rapidly in membership and reputation: "Since its first match, which was played with the Grammar School Club, it has steadily increased its position among footballers till it attained the top of the ladder by being ranked second to none in the colony."

The other teams that Carlton played against in those early days included Williamstown, South Yarra, Royal Park, and one called the Warehousemen.

Originally the club had no home ground on which to train or play and was forced to use a variety of different grounds in and around Carlton. Its first teams were fielded on a clearing in Royal Park, and that reserve provided the backdrop for the first 10 years of its existence. Over the next few decades, it trained and played on grounds in the University of Melbourne and at the southern end of Princes Park.

In those early years, the players at Carlton tended to be predominantly middle class as that was the nature of the suburb. But they nevertheless acquired a reputation for being wild and tempestuous players. By the early 1870s, matches between Carlton (the Blues) and Melbourne (the Reds) were a highlight of the football season, regularly attracting crowds in the tens of thousands.

The 1870 season saw Victoria's first official



▲ The Carlton football team in 1874, probably taken in Royal Park. Carlton won the premiership that year (Photo: Blueseum).

premiership competition. Carlton performed creditably that year to finish third. The following year, however, brought the club's first premiership, and then three more in succession in 1873, 1874 and 1875. These were the years in which Carlton dominated the competition.

In 1877 the Victorian Football Association (VFA) was formed with Carlton as one of its founding members. It was one of the VFA's most successful teams sweeping all before it to win the inaugural premiership that year.

By the late 1870s, however, Carlton's early halcyon period was coming to an end. Part of

the problem was its lack of a home ground on which to train. In 1878, the club suddenly found itself evicted from its grounds at the University of Melbourne. Without the advantage of a home base the side slumped to third place that season behind Geelong who were premiers, and Melbourne.

The 1879 season saw Carlton playing its home matches at the southern end of Princes Park, but it was not permitted to enclose the grounds nor to charge admission. The side improved slightly that year however to finish as runner-up to Geelong.



In 1877 the Victorian Football Association (VFA) was formed with Carlton as one of its founding members. It was one of the VFA's most successful teams sweeping all before it to win the inaugural premiership that year.



It was not until 1896 that the Carlton Football Club acquired a permanent home when it and the Carlton Cricket Club were granted occupancy of some rather rustic sports grounds on the site of the current oval at the northern end of Princes Park.

The end of the 19th century saw the club well established on its own grounds in Princes Park, but not doing well in the competition. In both 1899 and 1900, Carlton was placed seventh on the ladder, in a competition that had only eight teams. ●



Jeff Atkinson
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高架铁路引发社区关注

当地居民对Parkville高架铁路方案提出异议，此方案将拆除公园附近Park街上的铁路平交道口。

Brendan Rees

沿着Upfield铁路线有八个平交道口将被拆除，修建一条高架铁路，覆盖从Brunswick的Albion街到Parkville的Park街整个路段。

州政府于9月19日的公告中表示，高架铁路线设计将于明年年初开始，包括社区咨询，所有平交道口将于2027年前拆除。

然而，Parkville协会主席Rob Moore指出，虽然取消平交道口是受欢迎的，但Park街上高架铁路的视觉影响将是一个“主要问题”，对附近公园的动植物影响也会很大。

“我们将非常关注这些计划，因为我们看不到这是否会破坏皇家公园的景观，是否会影响皇家公园的野生动物。”

他说：“高架铁路也在高尔夫球场的边缘，所以整个布局非常困难。”

“我认为这条街上的居民主要担心的另一件事是，那里的公寓楼离车站相对较近，肯定会有更多的噪音。”

他希望对此方案能够进行全面的社区咨询，而不是“强行通过”。

“从表面上看，对墨尔本这个最重要的公园来



说，可能又是一个悲伤的景象。”

皇家公园之友团体秘书Kaye Oddie也表示担心，认为如果高架铁路干扰皇家公园，对市容和野生动物产生视觉和噪音影响。

她说：“高架铁路是一种非常突出的基础设施，从迄今为止实施的平交道口拆除工程就可以看出这一点。”

“根据Park街上的交通流量，在上面修建高架铁路的成本效益是多少？而且对于这个特殊的高架铁路，考虑到特殊的地形，在下面创造新的空间或公园的机会并不多。”

将要拆除的八个平交道口是Park街、Albert街、Albion街、Brunswick路、Dawson街、Hope街、Union街和Victoria街。



40公里/小时新限速

墨尔本市政降低了东墨尔本(East Melbourne)几条道路的限速，以改善所有道路使用者和行人的安全。

Brendan Rees

一项新的40公里/小时的速度限制将于9月中旬推出，这是由维州交通部(DoT)批准的，并得到东墨尔本居民的支持。

Wellington街、Spring街、Victoria Pde、Hoddle街和围绕Fitzroy公园和Treasury公园的Nicholson街附近所有道路的限速将降低。

该倡议是市政2030年交通战略的一部分，其中将与州交通部合作，在墨尔本内城道路实现一致的“40公里/小时最高限速”。

不同地点将会有电子交通标志展示，提醒驾驶人士新的车速限制。

在新限速发布后的至少六个月内，驾车者还会注意到有黄色和黑色的“新限速”标志。

市政指出：“较低的速度限制通过减少车辆制动距离来减少撞车

的可能性，给所有道路使用者更多的时间来识别和应对危险，并减少驾车者对车辆失控的可能性。”

40公里/小时的限制已经在大部分市区实施，包括Domain Parklands (2017年)、South Yarra (2017年)、市中心(2014年)和Parkville (2013年)。

预计2023年墨尔本北部和西部也将推出40公里/小时的新限速。

东墨尔本团体(EMG)规划召集人Greg Bisinella说，在积极参与了协商后，居民对结果感到满意。

他说：“几年来，我们EMG的Susan Henderson和现在的Jen Owen (副主席兼便利设施主管)一直致力于支持这一重要举措的实施。”

“我们认为这个举措能确保当地社区和居民的安全，并确保当地社区仍然是一个安静居住地。”

旧楼重建项目遭否决

墨尔本市政拒绝了一项在卡尔顿(Carlton)建造一座塔楼和公寓的规划提案，卡尔顿的这座不堪入目的建筑将保持空置和涂鸦状态。

Brendan Rees

该建筑位于Rathdowne街和Victoria街的拐角处，是一座被遗弃的前癌症协会大楼，据当地人称，该大楼破坏了通往皇家展览馆和卡尔顿花园的世界遗产环境区(WHEA)。

然而，皇家花园有限公司(Royal Garden Manor Pty Ltd)于今年5月提出了一项耗资8000万澳元重建计划，但遭市政否决，原因是未能满足一系列要求，包括可接受的整体高度。

该申请提议拆除现有建筑，并建造一个由七栋三层联排别墅、一个六层转角裙楼和一个包含77套公寓的13层塔楼组合建筑。



这个Bates智能设计开发项目包括两个开放空间露台、一个底层图书馆以及一个游泳池、健身房、瑜伽馆和桑拿房。

但市政表示，该计划申请收到了63项反对意见，与墨尔本城市规划不一致，对此，市政明确了“需要解决的一些重大问题”。

这些问题包括不合理的总高度(拟建高度为46米，而卡尔顿区域高度控制为8-16米)，不可接受的平台高度，对卡尔顿的特征和对世界遗产环境的不利影响，以及开放空间布局的糟糕设计。

收集数据 更新规划

自2020年以来，墨尔本市政收集、存储和分析了由Carlton Argyle广场传感器捕获的数据。

Carol Saffer

这些数据展示了广场内的使用趋势和模式，有助于支持该区域的维护，并可以为未来的公园使用和设计提供信息。

皇家公园的自然游乐广场是最新的数据收集户外区域，传感器于8月安装。

该获奖游乐广场深受众多游客和用户的欢迎，需要全年维护以保持良好状态。

代理市长Nicholas Reece说：“我们知道墨尔本人喜欢他们的公园、花园和开放空间，这就是为什么我们正在努力了解如何让

它们变得更好。”

“通过重要的数据收集，我们可以确定关键趋势，例如公园使用高峰时间、行人流量、垃圾收集，甚至哪些公园长椅最受欢迎。”

公园最后一次重新设计是在1984年。作为一个会议、锻炼、娱乐和通勤的重要场所，市政的规划者和设计师将利用最新的技术，了解未来如何重新设计，满足需求。

2022年8月，在公园里安装了首批五个传感器。

当有人使用带有传感器的设备时，游玩产生的运动将被存储为数据，并随着时间的推移的推移作为数据保存。

另一个检测行人和自行车运动的传感器将于今年晚些时候安装在公园的行人天桥上。这些数据将有助于了解用户的流动。

这些传感器将帮助识别热门游乐设备最



繁忙的时间和日子、需要维护的公园设备使用情况、高峰游乐期间行人天桥的使用量以及其他关键信息。

除了支持公园规划师、设计师和维护人员外，这些数据还可以让社区更多地参与塑造共享社区空间。

What's On: October

Community Calendar



Women's Social Soccer (FREE)
 Crawford Oval 121 Princes Park Drive
 Carlton North
 Saturday afternoons 1pm to 3pm
 Melbourne Social Soccer runs free social games for women.
 Contact 0456 700 688
 admin@melbournesocialsoccer.com



Preschool Storytime at East Melbourne Library (FREE)
 Until 30 NOV
 Wednesdays 10.30am - 11.15am
East Melbourne Library
 122 George St, East Melbourne 3002
 Share the wonder of books with your preschooler at this storytime with stories, songs, rhymes and activities.
 Ages 3 to 5 years; no bookings necessary.
 Call 03 9658 9600 for more details.

Farmers Market
 Carlton North Primary School
 Every Sunday, 9am - 1pm
 Stalls selling fresh produce on primary school grounds.



Yarra: Stories of Melbourne's River
 Old Treasury Building
 20 Spring St, East Melbourne 3002
 10am - 12pm | 1pm - 3pm
 03 9651 2233
 E: info@otb.org.au



Festival Indonesia
 A festival all about celebrating Indonesian culture, tourism and trade is back.
 Argyle Square in Carlton and Sofitel Melbourne, Arthur Streeton Auditorium.
 From September 30 to October 2
 E: festivalindonesia.melbourne@gmail.com

Fringe Parade and Lygon St Block Party (FREE)
 The Fringe Parade and Block Party are back for it's 40th birthday. Celebrating creativity, cultures and being outrageously yourself, channelled through the streets of Carlton and down Lygon street, ending in a massive block party in Argyle Square.
 October 15th, 2022 - October 15th
 Lygon St. 3pm - 10pm

Free Beginner Bachata Dance Classes (FREE)
 Get active, meet new people and have a really great time learning to dance Bachata
 Until 21 DEC
Upstairs
 1/171 Lygon St
 Carlton 3053
 T: 0407 955 668
 E: hello@energystudios.com.au

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