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Exhibition Building dome opens to the community
Photo by Roger Knight

Melbourne Royal Exhibition Building's dome promenade opened to the public on Saturday, October 29 for the first time in nearly 100 years, with Museums Victoria CEO and Director Lynley Crosswell saying she was "delighted" to welcome visitors back. *Continued page 11.*

Authorities aware of anti-social behaviour at emergency accommodation sites

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*
SAFETY & SECURITY

Authorities say concerns about drug activity and anti-social behaviour at an East Melbourne serviced apartment block and hotel being used to house people experiencing homelessness are being taken seriously.

The Comfort Inn Hotel and City Edge Apartments at 90 and 92 Albert St are being used as emergency accommodation sites by specialist homelessness agencies, however, reports of drug activity, graffiti, and rubbish being dumped in and around the buildings has left residents feeling unsafe.

A frustrated resident, James Bartolo, aired his concerns at a City of Melbourne council meeting in August about the situation, saying authorities "need to step up".

"The disrespect to the neighbours of East Melbourne, the graffiti, the rubbish but most of all the dealing and taking of drugs. This has been going on from the beginning of COVID and is still going on," he said.

"This is a serious and urgent discussion which many in East Melbourne are not aware of. We are now desperate with elderly residents not feeling safe in their own homes which they have owned and resided in for over 30 years."

Victoria Police said it was aware of concerns raised by residents which it was "continuing to work with The Salvation Army and the City of Melbourne to address the matters".

"If an offence is detected, police will deal with the matter at hand. Anyone who commits criminal or anti-social behaviour that puts the community at risk can expect a

Continued on page 3.

Plans lodged for new hotel at Corkman site

WORDS BY *Sean Car*
PLANNING

Six years after illegally demolishing Carlton's historic Corkman Hotel, the developers of the Leicester St site have submitted plans to the City of Melbourne to construct a new three-storey hotel.

Developers Stefce Kutlesovski and Raman Shaqiri, the two men behind the company 160 Leicester Pty Ltd which owns the site, both received jail sentences last year after the company demolished the original pub without planning approval in October 2016.

It prompted the City of Melbourne and Minister for Planning Richard Wynne to take action against the pair in VCAT, seeking an order for the former two-storey rendered brick Carlton Inn (more recently known as the Corkman Hotel) to be rebuilt.

However, the men would instead be ordered to clear the site and turn it into a temporary park while new planning permissions were received. But the company failed to do so and in July 2020, the council and Minister Wynne launched contempt proceedings against it.

The site was eventually turned into a temporary park last year, while both Mr Kutlesovski and Mr Shaqiri received month-long jail sentences in September 2021 and were ordered to pay more than \$1.4 million in fines and costs.

But the site could now be given new life after the developers submitted \$9 million plans for a three-storey hotel with a rooftop terrace and three basement levels designed by Six Degree Architects.

In its planning application lodged with the City of Melbourne last month, the developers said the licensed premises would provide op-



▲ *The proposal for the Corkman Hotel site.*

portunities for "social interaction and support a vital night-time economy providing music, food and entertainment".

"The proposed licensed premises will deliver positive cumulative impacts to the area. The licensed venue will provide a new entertainment space for the area to serve local residents, workers, students and visitors," a statement in the application read.

"The new venue will be accommodated in an impressive building where patron activity areas have been designed to provide for a relaxed setting in both indoor and outdoor areas."

The statement of significance – included as part of the heritage impact statement for the site – said that while the demolition had caused "irreplaceable loss of the significant building fabric and its aesthetic significance", the proposal was consistent with the "historical and social significance of the place".

Carlton Community History Group's Jeff Atkinson agreed, stating that it considered the proposal to be "quite reasonable".

"It is not too large and overwhelming, sits well in its surroundings, and is certainly much better than the original proposal," he said, adding, "the fact that the Corkman Hotel was

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Skyrail questions grow for Park St level crossing removal

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*
PLANNING

News of the Park St level crossing removal in Parkville has been met with growing concern with many questioning how the design of a skyrail option would work.

As reported by *Inner City News* in October, the state government announced it would remove eight level crossings along the Upfield line and replace them with a skyrail, covering an entire section from Albion St, Brunswick to Park St, Parkville, with all existing crossings gone by 2027.

The Level Crossing Removal Project (LXRP) said a new rail bridge “will deliver the best outcome for the community” as it would “suit the conditions of the area and will complement the rail bridge in Brunswick and Coburg”.

The Park St level crossing abuts an abundance of green space including Royal Park, prompting concerns that the rail bridge may compromise the treasured flora and fauna.

The LXRP said it was in the “very early stages” of project design and further detailed design, engineering assessments and community engagement would be undertaken.

Friends of Royal Park secretary Kaye Oddie said the design would need to consider and respect Royal Park’s landscape and environment settings, its heritage status and visual amenity.

“What options are being investigated that would see Park St put under the existing railway line; or see the railway line put under Park St (as has been done in Essendon and Sandringham) ... and not only an obtrusive overhead skyrail option?” she said, noting that surveyors were at work at the Park St railway crossing on October 26, “acknowledging they were part of the level crossing removal project”.

“Of concern is that a planning scheme amendment Specific Controls Overlay will be pushed through applying ‘exemption from planning scheme requirements’ as was done for the Bell St level crossing removal project.”

“We do not want something that is very obtrusive or negatively impacts the area or our park” - Melbourne MP Ellen Sandell



“This measure is being increasingly used by the state government for its Big Build projects,” Ms Oddie said, which “in essence, no meaningful community input is considered in regard to a project, nor consideration of alternative options”.

Ms Oddie said the Friends of Royal Park had passed on their concerns to Melbourne Greens MP Ellen Sandell, who they hope will seek information and answers from the Minister for Transport Infrastructure, Jacinta Allan.

Ms Sandell said she had listened to the concerns of residents regarding the potential impact of a rail bridge on the local area, which was “so close to our beautiful Royal Park”.

“We do not want something that is very obtrusive or negatively impacts the area or our park,” she said.

“I will be seeking answers and more detail from the Minister for Transport Infrastructure to make sure all these concerns are properly taken into account, and to ensure the community is properly consulted.”

“This Labor Government doesn’t have a great track record when it comes to properly

consulting our local communities when big projects like this happen, and so I’m here to hold them to account and make sure they actually listen to the community.”

According to Greens MP for Brunswick Dr Tim Read, the train line descends into a trench south of Park St but “it’s not clear whether the rail line will be elevated above Park St or whether other changes will be made”.

This issue was a sentiment shared by the Parkville Association’s president Rob Moore who said while welcoming the proposal to remove the Park St level crossing, it should not be at a cost to the local parkland.

“What is the length of track to bring it down to ground level? Clearly, it can’t go down into the gully,” he said.

Protectors of Public Lands Victoria Inc. secretary Michael Petit was equally concerned about the “engineering challenge of a skyrail heading from Jewell Station that overpasses Park St and then attempts a precipitous drop to reach Royal Park Station”.

“We will join other community groups and individuals in demanding public comment and consultation on the recently announced extension of skyrail along the Upfield line,” he said.

However, Mr Petit noted the creation of open space, separated walking and cycling tracks and creation of playgrounds and sporting areas had been a positive outcome of the skyrail works to date.

“That said, commitment to community consultation needs to be prioritised, particularly on the stretch from Jewell to Royal Park stations.”

According to the LXRP, the stages for the removal of each level crossing would consist of early site investigations, a concept design and initial community consultation, and a refined design based on community feedback before the design is finalised and works start.

Ms Allan has previously said the level crossings – which are used by around 71,000 vehicles during morning peaks – were “death traps” and needed to go to make the roads safer, ease congestion, and clear the way for more trains. ●

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Authorities aware of anti-social behaviour at emergency accommodation

Continued from page 1.

swift response from police," a Victoria Police spokesperson said.

However, in a statement, Homes Victoria said "no notable matters of concern" had been raised regarding the small number of people being accommodated at the sites.

"While most people staying in hotels do the right thing, incidents of antisocial behaviour among people in emergency hotel accommodation are sometimes reported," a Department of Families, Fairness and Housing spokesperson said.

"Where necessary, Homes Victoria works with police, specialist homelessness services and other key parties (including local councils) to ensure that any incidents of anti-social behaviour are dealt with appropriately."

"Homes Victoria does not tolerate anti-social behaviour in accommodation it owns or leases from third party providers. We take all incidents and complaints seriously and are committed to addressing them collaboratively with our housing and support providers."

Rebecca Vouch, the executive director of the East Melbourne Child Care Co-Operative, which is situated near Albert St, said they had experienced "trouble from time to time" but always called police.

"We're always cautious of people in the park [at Powlett Reserve] but we just ring the police straight away. We don't even give them a second chance," she said.

"We now leave our lights on at the front entrance of the centre, otherwise we have people trying to sleep in that area," she said.

"Safety is a priority for us, being in a park is a risk for us but we deal with that seriously – we don't tolerate anything."

Ms Vouch made no suggestion that the anti-social behaviour they had experienced was connected to the guests staying at the Comfort Inn Hotel and City Edge Apartments, only that it was an issue, which had also seen a person

“

This is a serious and urgent discussion which many in East Melbourne are not aware of.

”

threaten a staff member with a syringe before the COVID-19 pandemic.

Local resident Ray Galea told *Inner City News* that he was concerned to find syringes dumped in the front garden beds of his apartment block.

"You hear them late at night. If I'm there, I'll pop out and tell them to move on. Most residents are scared to confront people like that," he said.

"It's not as bad as it was but it's constantly there."

But he noted, "You've got the East Melbourne gardens just behind us, it's such a beautiful spot with families there and who knows what's floating around, that's what concerns me."

The City of Melbourne did not respond to questions about issues at the Comfort Inn Hotel and City Edge Apartments, but noted since August, it had received 10 requests lodged by East Melbourne residents in relation to graffiti (six), dumped rubbish (two) and syringe collection (two).

"Our officers have proactively patrolled the area and we encourage all residents to report matters via the City of Melbourne website," it said.

The East Melbourne Group, which represents the community's voice, said the matters at Albert St accommodation buildings were a "complex issue requiring multi-party consultation and solutions". ●



▲ The original Corkman Hotel (left) before being illegally demolished, and (right) the proposal looking from Pelham St.

Plans lodged for new hotel at Corkman site

Continued from page 1.

demolished is an indictment of the current planning regulations and an indication of how inadequate they are in protecting our heritage buildings."

National Trust of Australia (Victoria) CEO Simon Ambrose said while it was disappointed by the developer's decision not to consult the community as part of its proposal, it was an overall "pleasing" application.

"The National Trust is pleased to see a hotel proposed for this site, which, if approved, will continue its historical and social significance as a place of gathering and entertainment," Mr Ambrose said.

"However, it is disappointing that no community consultation has been undertaken to inform the plans, considering the huge impact the destruction of the Corkman Hotel has had on the community."

However, some members of the community have voiced their strong opposition to the plans, with one local, Gary Vines, arguing an approval would give the "Corkman Cowboys what they wanted".

"It is clearly an ambit claim to avoid the planning scheme amendment condition lapsing and enabling the illegal demolition of the Carlton Inn to set a precedent," he said.

"If approved this permit will prove that planning law has no power to rein in the shonky



▲ A render of the proposed rooftop terrace.

developers. It gives the Corkman Cowboys what they wanted – windfall profits from an illegally cleared site."

Carlton resident Lester Levinson said he could see no reason why the "illegally demolished Corkman should be replaced by a hotel, of which Melbourne has no shortage, most under-patronised".

"A new hotel will not service the conviviality and accommodation needs of the Corkman's former clientele, who will have gone elsewhere to satisfy those needs," Mr Levinson said.

"A children's playground on this site would be a far better (social) investment for Carlton where refugees, homeless and unemployed families need some cost-free recreational outlet close to the temporary accommodation they are being provided or are seeking in this locality." ●

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Come hear what the candidates have to say

The four women standing for the seat of Melbourne in the upcoming Victorian Election will speak at a public forum on Monday, November 7 at 7pm at the Church of All Nations, 180 Palmerston St, Carlton.

WORDS BY *Carol Saffer*
ELECTIONS

The event, organised by a justice coalition of inner-city Uniting Church members, will be moderated by Dr Mark Zirnsak, senior social justice advocate for the Victoria/Tasmania Synod of the Uniting Church in Australia.

As a forerunner to the forum, *Inner City News* contacted all five candidates and asked, "could you please name two important issues of concern to the voters and how you will deal with them if elected?"

Colleen Bolger from the Victorian Socialists said the two issues she thought were important to voters were climate change and the housing crisis.

"The scale and urgency of the climate crisis require people who are not afraid to take on the vested interests of the big corporate polluters," Ms Bolger said.

"We will push the government to reverse the privatisation of the energy and transport sectors to drive a more rapid transition to renewable energy sources, and enable it to cap the price of utility bills and public transport fares that could also alleviate the cost-of-living pressures people face."

"On housing, everyone from people on the public housing waitlist, to renters, and to people struggling with interest rate rises to pay off their family home, need more drastic action. We advocate for rent caps, capping the number of properties people can own to two."



▲ Greens candidate Ellen Sandell.



▲ Labor candidate Rebecca Thistleton.

"We want a building blitz of public housing paid for by taxes on developers and reviving the idea of a State Bank to provide low-cost loans to working-class people trying to buy a home."

Current sitting Greens MP Ellen Sandell said, "people are very worried about climate change, especially the increase in natural disasters and what kind of world our kids will inherit."

"Residents tell me they are also very worried about housing. With rents rising, younger people finding it almost impossible to buy a home,



▲ The Reason Party candidate Nicola Foxworthy.



▲ Victorian Socialists candidate Colleen Bolger.

and over 100,000 people on the public and social housing waiting list."

"The Greens and I have released our fully-costed plans to deal with these issues, including transitioning Victoria's power to 100 per cent renewables within 10 years and a fair transition for coal workers."

"We also plan to cap rent increases in line with wage growth, put a levy on property developers to build more affordable and public housing, and require all new developments over

50 units to put aside 30 per cent for first-home-buyers at a reduced rate."

The Reason Party's Nicola Foxworthy said, "In my discussions with voters in the seat of Melbourne, two key issues have been highlighted: rebuilding our health and mental health system and addressing the housing crisis we're currently facing."

"Solving the state's burgeoning healthcare crisis will require more than just upgrading the Northern Hospital. I will be calling for:

- A new hospital in the north, not just an upgraded Northern Hospital;
- An urgent recovery plan for our state's healthcare system via a parliamentary inquiry to ensure our system is adequately resourced with supported and appreciated staff;
- Serious investment in mental health across all regions, particularly for young people; and

A focus on evidence-based prevention and early intervention throughout the health system.

"Voters also want real action on the housing crisis," she said. "That's why establishing a sustainable, systemic approach to affordable housing delivery will be a key priority for me; one with clear social and affordable housing targets and a dedicated pipeline of investment to achieve them."

"We need a system that can enable urgent investment in social housing and underpin the development of build-to-rent and other institutional investment in affordable housing."

The Labor Party's Rebecca Thistleton said, "I want to make sure our sports clubs and community groups have a local member lobbying hard for new facilities from within the government."

"I'm out knocking on doors and listening to people every day; people tell me they want real climate action and relief from power bills. A re-elected Labor Government will bring back the State Electricity Commission to supercharge renewable energy, driving down prices and getting rid of coal by 2035."

The Liberal Party's candidate George Palackalody did not respond. ●

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LORD MAYOR SALLY CAPP

A vision for a cleaner, greener, busier city

Elected leaders might expect a few surprises once they're voted into office, but who could predict a once-in-a-century pandemic?

Lord Mayor Sally Capp quickly became a key figure in managing the city's response, a period she says was defined by 'ingenuity and collaboration'.

'It really was a time of collaboration and I've got more telephone numbers in my book than I ever had before,' the Lord Mayor said.

'I can call colleagues in state and federal government. We see efforts to bring Melbourne back better right across the private sector, community sector and cultural institutions. They're all pitching in to say "what can we do?"'

Indeed a typical week for the Lord Mayor features numerous meetings with a huge range of Melburnians and delegates from interstate and overseas.

'This morning I was with a small business owner hearing their great ideas to attract new customers. I applaud people for every single day making the effort to find ways to keep their doors open and people employed and customers coming in. That is so Melbourne.'

She'd recently worked the room at an arts festival launch encircled by acrobats and singers; welcomed an American climate policy foundation impressed with City of Melbourne initiatives; and taken a look at Melbourne Fashion Week planning.

'Ambassadors, residents groups, it could not be more varied. I see the catering staff here at Town Hall at six in the morning preparing beautiful

food for lunches at Town Hall. I'm an early starter and see the city awakening. We are a very big part of that.'

She believes the motivation for running for Lord Mayor held her in good stead for helping manage the city's COVID response and ongoing recovery. Melbourne was the hardest hit city in Australia, with long lockdowns emptying our streets and devastating the local economy – creating major challenges for the city and the Victorian Government, who worked closely together on revitalisation initiatives.

Reflecting on the past few years, she said: 'There were certainly lots of surprises about being Lord Mayor. I think it's important for everyone who takes on a leadership role to have a real passion for something, because there are going to be lots of challenges and the passion keeps you focused and feeling driven.'

'For me, that passion was for Melbourne. I'd had many roles in the past where I'd represented Melbourne or been involved in issues about the city, in roles such as CEO of the Committee for Melbourne, and representation and trade investment roles such as Agent-General for Victoria.'

One of the most satisfying aspects of her role, she said, is making a difference at the local level for Melbourne's neighbourhoods.

'Of course the list of things to do never ends and that can be overwhelming at times. I really focus on the things we can do which helps move me away from the things I can't get done,' she said.

Asked what she's most proud of midway through her term as Lord Mayor, she singles out 'the whole response of City of Melbourne to the pandemic. The Queen Victoria Market renewal was at an absolute stalemate and that is now moving ahead. Also, I'm so proud the city understands we can play a major role in helping people experiencing homelessness by dedicating a building to support them through the Make Room program.'

The Greenline Project to transform the river's north bank 'has excited and galvanised people', she said.

'It's moved beyond just my passion project – it has a business case, initial funding and multiple agencies working on it. I'm also really excited about Power Melbourne and the way we can change the paradigm on renewable energy in cities.'

'This is another reflection for me about the City of Melbourne. We are brave, we are happy to step into the unknown and to say this is important and we should give it a try. I think that sense of taking some risks because it's worth it, because it could and should lead us to better outcomes, that is extraordinary. I used to look at government as a very risk-averse, status quo kind of body, and I look at City of Melbourne and I think, wow, this is an organisation with people with the courage to do the right thing. I think that reflects where our citizens expect us to be.'

'Look at what we've done on the change the date discussion around 26 January – we had the debate, we've done the work. These are difficult conversations and they're challenging but they're important and we take a stand on these things which I think is fantastic.'



Meetings, conversations, decision-making continue apace in her life as there's much still to do, together with all councillors and staff, she said.

'We need to keep delivering on our essential services, to be a cleaner city, and to take bigger aspirational roles in important issues like climate change, being a greener city; and I think ultimately, following the pandemic experience, it's about being a busier city. Melbourne can be a magnet for students, residents, investors, business owners, workers, creatives – whatever your personal passions or professional pursuits are, you can do them here in Melbourne.'

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Owner of historic building appeals council rejection of dermatology centre to VCAT

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*
PLANNING

The owner of a century-old building in Parkville is taking the City of Melbourne to the state's planning tribunal after a plan to redevelop the site was knocked back, leaving residents who objected to the proposal reeling.

The community has been running a long campaign to save the intra-war building "Harcourt" at 35-39 Royal Parade after a proposal to build a new dermatology centre at the site threatened to demolish the building.

Sinclair Dermatology proposed to build a three-storey clinic with a basement level car park, which saw it submit amended plans to the council in March to get the project over the line.

But in a huge win for residents – who argued that the building was in the South Parkville heritage precinct and that the proposal was therefore out of character with the area – the council rejected the plan in September because it didn't fit the planning scheme.

However, Parkville Property Investments Pty Ltd – which is not known if they are associated with the owner of the building or are acting on behalf of Sinclair Dermatology – has lodged an appeal and will take the matter to the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) with a compulsory conference on December 1 and a hearing on February 28 next year.

The Parkville Association's president Rob Moore, whose group led the successful campaign to keep the red brick two-storey building, said he was disappointed by the news.

"It's sad but given the council knocked the plan back on several fronts, we will be defending our suburb," he said.

"We're very disappointed as clearly this is an unsuitable development for our heritage community, particularly as we are celebrating 150 years since Parkville was listed as a heritage suburb by the National Trust."



Mr Moore said he had met with the City of Melbourne in late October and was awaiting advice from their barrister and the council.

While the building does not have heritage protection, it sits within the council's heritage overlay, and in an area considered an example of "particularly intact Victorian residential development."

The building dates to 1923 and was originally opened as a boarding house and has a distinctive Moderne-style tower with a porthole window on the northeast corner.

In June, locals gathered at the front of Harcourt holding signs saying, "more than a façade", "save our heritage" and "no development or need for a medical centre in our heritage suburb".

Mr Moore previously said that approval for the application, which attracted 150 objections, could set a concerning precedent for other sites in the precinct, stressing that no buildings had been demolished in Parkville in the past 25 to 35 years.

In rejecting the medical clinic proposal in September, the council cited an "unreasonable and unacceptable impact on the residential environment caused by the intensity of the proposal".

The council 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. ●

Campaign launched to find hospitality operator for the Fitzroy Gardens Pavilion

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*
COUNCIL AFFAIRS

The Pavilion at the iconic Fitzroy Gardens could be home to a hospitality operator after an expression of interest (EOI) campaign failed to find a tenant to use the venue as a multi-use community space.

The Pavilion café closed at the expiry of its lease in March 2017, mainly due to the building's condition and the major renewal works that were required to continue to operate a sustainable café space.

Most recently it has been used by the City of Melbourne's creative spaces program, which provides opportunities for artists to help reactivate and reinvigorate Melbourne.

However, following community consultation findings, the council conducted an EOI process which closed in March, for the lease, fit-out and management of the Pavilion to provide a multi-use space combining a community outcome with hospitality services – but a successful tenant was unable to be identified.

"Given the lack of community operators for the Pavilion and the second preference being for commercial use it is proposed that a commercial hospitality expression of interest to lease be undertaken," a council report said, with the lease to begin in November 2022.

"The food and beverage operations in their own right have the potential to be exciting and better activate the Fitzroy Gardens including providing residents and tourists with an excellent culinary offering."

Speaking at the council's Future Melbourne Committee meeting on October 18, Deputy Lord Mayor Nick Reece said while the first round of EOI was a disappointing result, he had "no hesitation in supporting this new proposal

and going out to a fully commercial EOI".

"This is an extraordinarily special location in Melbourne, and I think we're going to see some extraordinary and exciting ideas come forward," he said. "I think it will attract a unique and exciting operator that this venue deserves."

Cr Rohan Leppert said it was a "significant decision" to end the community based EOI which the council gave a "good go", but he noted there "is no real strictures around what sort of commercial EOI we're going out for".

"My nervousness ... is that if we only receive further expressions of interest that result in using this wonderful Pavilion as a fine dining, hospitality venue, I'm interested in understanding whether or not that will have the effect of excluding the community from that part of Fitzroy Gardens," he said. "What will that do to the sense of community and accessibility for locals but also visitors for that precinct, not the pavilion itself, but that entire precinct?"

"We can still figure out if any of those preferred operators are open to working in a different way if we are worried about that exclusivity that might come with the EOI process."

East Melbourne Group planning convenor Greg Bisnella said as the building was in an iconic location attracting the entire Melbourne community and visitors, "it is not surprising that the City of Melbourne is looking for a well-resourced tenant to bring the site to life".

"We have been disappointed that the facility has been underutilised over the past few years when it could have been used by the local community," he said. "Council could have been more flexible in providing it for community use."

Since 2010 the future use of the 1963-built Pavilion has been considered, with options including open space, rebuilding, or refurbishing the existing facility or retaining the existing structure for community or commercial use. ●

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Melbourne Cemetery volunteer gardening group makes ground with help from SMCT

WORDS BY *Carol Saffer*
ENVIRONMENT

Locals concerned with the state of the Melbourne General Cemetery joined together to form the volunteer group Greening the Cemetery under the auspices of the Princes Hill Community Centre in September 2021.

The Centre signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Southern Memorial Cemetery Trust (SMCT), the managers of the Melbourne General Cemetery, with the group's first official two-hour working bee scheduled for the last Friday in November 2021.

Initially the group was under the guidance of the cemetery's operational manager John Wright when it was decided to target areas where there will be maximum impact for the visitor walking down the main paths and roads.

The group began working under the direction of Helen Tuton, a horticulture operations leader with SMCT, on Friday, August 26.

A member of the greening group Liz Aird said, "We were all a bit euphoric."

"We now have a plan and a plant list."

The group utilised indigenous, non-invasive native plant species to enhance garden beds and bring new plant life to critical areas of bare earth.

The September working bee saw the volunteers finalise the installation of a woody meadow planting in an older public burial area of the cemetery.

Ms Tuton said, "a woody meadow planting is a mixture of appropriate native shrubs, selected for their ability to form dense canopies, suppress weed growth and provide colour, movement and habitat for insects, birds and reptiles."

"Woody meadows are self-sustaining,



▲ L-R: Liz Aird, Dr Vanda Fortunata (chairperson SMCT), Helen Tuton (horticultural operations leader SMCT), Laz Cotsios (CEO SMCT) and David James.

drought-tolerant and tough, requiring minimal inputs but providing positive aesthetic, environmental and canopy coverage outcomes," she said.

Working group convener Carlton resident David James said, "I have beautiful visions of fine kangaroo grass and flowers waving in the breeze."

A spokesperson from Princes Hill Community Centre said this year it was estimated the group provided more than 200 hours of voluntary labour and supplied several hundred free plants.

"Most importantly this work is greatly

appreciated by the public who are excited to see the improvements and make positive comments when they see the work being done."

Ms Tuton said, "the volunteers are extremely enthusiastic, keen to learn and keen to plant, so to be able to engage and work with them on these types of gardening activities at this beautiful and important site is wonderful."

Ms Tuton has considerable experience installing these woody meadow-style plantings and is excited to plant this type of garden with the volunteers at the cemetery.

Once established, the only necessary maintenance is to coppice the plants (hard pruning to



20cm) every few years.

The pruning reinvigorates the shrubs and promotes dense, breathtaking floriferous displays.

A favourite of the greening cemetery group, *Veronica perfoliate*, is just one of the plants in the new meadow.

The foliage of this shrub, known by its common name of Diggers Speedwell, resembles that of some juvenile eucalypts with rounded blue-grey leaves.

"It has a beautiful display of blue to purple flowers in summer and performs very well in tricky spots under the canopies of tall trees; what's not to love," she said,

With the woody meadow establishing well, the volunteers will now look to undertake planting indigenous grass and wildflower species in other areas of the site at future monthly working bees.

Planting large trees within the cemetery boundary is very limited.

"We instead utilise understorey plantings to provide canopy coverage, create habitat, provide corridors for wildlife movement, reduce weed infestation and increase our botanical diversity," Ms Tuton said. ●

Council CEO stood down immediately after internal probe finding on anonymous donation

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*
COUNCIL AFFAIRS

City of Melbourne chief executive officer Justin Hanney has finished up in his role earlier than expected after an internal investigation found he should have declared an anonymous donation for a yacht race.

Mr Hanney made the shock announcement on October 19 that he intended to stand down in late December after four years in the top job.

It came after a probe into a fundraising campaign from which Mr Hanney received an undisclosed donation believed to be more than \$35,000 to cover the cost of racing in the Sydney to Hobart yacht race.

At the time of his resignation announcement, the council said its internal CEO Employment Matters Committee had conducted a "thorough review" of the donation Mr Hanney received through the Australian Sports Foundation, before issuing a council statement saying it had "not identified any decisions that have been influenced by the donation" and he accepted his offer to resign at the end of the year.

But in a backflip decision, the council announced Alison Leighton had been appointed

as acting chief executive effective immediately on October 27, and "thanked Mr Hanney for his dedicated service to the organisation".

This subsequent statement said the council had considered a confidential report of the CEO Employment Matters Committee on the anonymous donation, which found "the donations should have been declared as part of City of Melbourne's personal interests return process".

However, it found "no evidence to indicate that Mr Hanney intentionally or recklessly lodged returns that were false or incomplete".

The CEO Employment Matters Committee began undertaking a review in August, which is currently being led by independent chair, Jude Munro AO, and has access to independent legal advice and other necessary resources.

The council said it would advise Local Government Victoria of the need for "strengthened guidelines" in the Victorian *Local Government Act 2020* relating to CEO personal interest returns and issues relating to joint ownership of assets, and requested that action be taken to address these shortcomings.

Mr Hanney, whose leadership has been lauded for navigating the council through the COVID-19 pandemic, acknowledged he should have declared the donation.



▲ City of Melbourne chief executive Justin Hanney speaking at a Residents 3000 meeting in April. He has stood down from his position immediately.

"As I have previously acknowledged, I should have nominated the Australian Sports Foundation donation as part of my personal interest declaration process, and this was an oversight," he said.

Mr Hanney co-owned a yacht with Nick Foa, the former head of transport services

at the Department of Transport. He too resigned in September following a government investigation into his role over the donation investigation.

Cr Capp thanked Mr Hanney for his unwavering service, saying he was a "dedicated champion of the municipality and has worked tirelessly to improve the lives of its residents and business owners".

"Justin has transformed the culture at the City of Melbourne, strengthening its focus on performance and achievement, and this will be one of his legacies," she said.

"Melbourne is a marvellous city which is bouncing back following some of its toughest times and Justin's outstanding leadership has contributed to this."

Mr Hanney was reappointed as CEO for a further four years in June, with his contract term due to end on June 30, 2026.

He has been praised for his implementing an ambitious reform and revitalisation plan to help the city recover from the pandemic after being the most locked down city in the world.

Mr Hanney also led a new neighbourhood planning process and a council-wide commitment to the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals. ●

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I'm Rebecca Thistleton, your Labor candidate for Melbourne.

Through journalism, politics and community organisations, I've always been involved in where I live. I thrive on talking to people and speaking up for change.

I'm a mum of two young children, and I know the value of great public childcare and healthcare, and the importance of inclusive communities.

And I want to do everything possible to protect my kids' future from the effects of climate change.

With your support, I can be a vocal, committed local member for Melbourne.

Authorised by Chris Ford, Australian Labor Party, Victorian Branch. 438 Docklands Drive, Docklands 3008.

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BACK BECK.

Doing What Matters

Victorian Labor

Dress to impress with fashion for the planet

WORDS BY *Carol Saffer*
SUSTAINABILITY

The Young Mercy Links at the Mercy Hub in Carlton North is a group of post-high school young adults committed to social justice and mercy through volunteering and education.

At a recent retreat at Phillip Island, the group watched *The True Cost*, a documentary about fast fashion that sparked interest in recycling and reusing.

The film's impact prompted members Isabel Clements and Phoebe Baillon to organise a *Fashion for Planet - Clothing Swap to End Hyper-Consumerism* event on Sunday, November 13, from 11am to 5pm at 617 Nicholson St, Carlton North.

Young Mercy Links co-ordinator Victoria Angela Scarafilo said all of the events undertaken by the group were member-initiated and -led.

"Isabel and Phoebe want to help eliminate fast fashion, and the Clothing Swap aims to encourage a movement away from fast fashion and hyper-consumerism and instead to focus on re-wearing, reusing, and recycling," Ms Scarafilo said.

The True Cost highlights instances such as clothes factory workers clashing with the military in Columbia, factory fires in Bangladesh resulting in more than a thousand deaths, and the human and environmental impact of the garment manufacturing processes.

Ms Clements, who is studying for a Bachelor of Commerce and Global Studies at Monash University, said she had a general awareness of the fast fashion toll.

"I was unaware of those specific events, and it adds to the shock value



▲ Phoebe Baillon (left) and Isabel Clements (right).

when you hear about or see them; it puts a face to all the things that have occurred," she said.

"What is really a problem with Gen Z is that we consume so much without thinking about our choices."

"We aim to get people in our demographic to start thinking when they make choices as they could act differently."

Sustainable fashion is not always affordable, which is why it is a money-free event.

"Bring clothes you love but don't wear anymore and swap them for something new for your wardrobe," Ms Clements said.

In response to a comment in the film she said, "we communicate who we are through our clothing. You can choose how you want to express yourself through your clothes no matter if they're bought new from a store or bought second hand or recycled."

"Come along to give your clothes a second life, find some new wardrobe

staples and learn more about how we can minimise the fashion industry's harm to people and the planet."

People without clothes to swap are welcome to take a few items but bringing something to hang on the clothing racks for someone else to choose is preferable.

The Mercy Hub will have shelves and racks of garments and changing rooms and mirrors will be available to view outerwear.

The two organisers said Upparel, a textile waste recycling company, would collect any leftover garments.

For more information, scan the QR below: ●



Lygon St rises as a fashion destination

WORDS BY *Kaylah-Joelle Baker*
BUSINESS

Vacant shopfronts on Lygon St have been taken up by many fashion brands which are now making the street the destination to go to for fashion.

One of the more successful businesses seen to be planting permanent roots into the Carlton area is ELK Womenswear.

Specialising in Australian ethically designed clothing, the brand was established in Melbourne in 2004 by married couple, Marnie Goding and Adam Koniaras, and prides itself on being sustainable and transparent.

As a brand that sets itself apart, ELK Womenswear remains a positive and successful example of the potential of the Shopfront Activation Program, which is confirmed to extend into early 2023.

"We've seen some incredible success stories thanks to the Shopfront Activation Program, and watching businesses blossom with several tenants extending their leases, and others becoming permanent City of Melbourne fixtures," the council's Business and Global Opportunities portfolio lead Cr Kevin Louey said.

"We're proud to be continuing our support of emerging and established Melbourne businesses and creatives."

Up to three womenswear labels have come to Carlton as part of the program, and reside alongside a number of menswear labels, as well the controversial and infamous Karen's Diner which is set to remain in place until February.

The \$2.6-million Shopfront Activation Program has seen 40 established and aspiring businesses and creatives find new homes, and reach, in and around the city.

"The city is abuzz with the best of Melbourne's entrepreneurs, artists and makers, who have been bringing their uniquely Melbourne offerings to empty shopfronts across the city," Lord Mayor Sally Capp said.

"We're proud to keep this program going and ramping up our efforts to revitalise more silent spaces - supporting local jobs and boosting footfall and visitation."

The Shopfront Activation Program is part of the City of Melbourne and Victorian Government's \$100 million Melbourne City Recovery Fund, and has been delivered in partnership with property acquisition and leasing specialists Renew Australia, The Place Agency and Ginnane & Associates. ●



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Funding needed to stop Carlton Toy Library falling off the financial cliff

WORDS BY *Carol Saffer*
COMMUNITY

There is a small red brick heritage building on Cardigan St that was once a home for pregnant single women, a child community health service, and now is where the Carlton Toy Library lives.

The Toy Library celebrated its 21st birthday on Saturday, October 21.

While the weather was not kind, mums, dads, kids, and volunteers all had fun.

Emily Corcoran loves the space and her role as volunteer president. She has been a volunteer for six-and-a-half years and president for the past 18 months.

She wears so many hats it is surprising she hasn't toppled over with the weight of them, mostly doing the basics of what should be a paid staff member's role.

"There is no paid staff; this place is run entirely by volunteers," Ms Corcoran said.

While historically funded by the City of Melbourne, since COVID, the demand has significantly increased.

Most of her time is devoted to writing grant applications, although grant funding generally does not cover staffing costs.

"We can get funding for new toys and run events, but no one wants to give money for operational costs, she said.

"We know there are people who care about us, but we must translate that into a way to make the service sustainable for the community."

Ms Corcoran has spoken with three people about funding at the City of Melbourne over the past 18 months and still has no decision.

"We are rapidly coming to the end of our funding money; the way we are at the moment, we will have to close at the start of March 2023."

"We have no more money."

Increasingly the grant tenders at the council have unintentionally changed focus to



▲ Melbourne Community Toy Library president Emily Corcoran.

innovation, and the toy library's needs are beyond that.

It has survived for 21 years by jumping from grant to grant, usually of a three- to five-year duration, which covered a lot of the core business.

"It is a place not only to borrow toys; it is a place to connect with the community, for kids to mingle with others and parents to chat with their peers," she said.

Victorian MP for Melbourne Ellen Sandell said, "These much-loved toy libraries only stay open because of the kindness and generosity of local volunteers like Emily and her team."

"I've been running a campaign to get the City of Melbourne council to provide secure funding for our toy libraries in Carlton, North Melbourne and Docklands, so they can keep their doors open and support our local families."

Membership is based on a co-op model; once

the annual joining fee is paid, up to five toys a week can be borrowed for a maximum of two weeks with access also to collections at the North Melbourne and Docklands toy libraries.

"The more members volunteer, the cheaper the fees become," Ms Corcoran said.

"We even have grandparent memberships which allow them to borrow toys, so they don't have to keep a store of toys at their house when the kids visit."

The organisation presently has around 300 members and a toy range covering all ages, from six months to adults.

"The adults generally borrow from our range of board games so they can play after the kids have gone to bed."

Ms Corcoran is a qualified primary teacher who works in leadership and learning support programs.

She is passionate about play-based learning

and early years oral language development.

"I see the library development kits for children, so when they hit school, they come in with a strong level of oral language because they have been read to and played with other kids and adults," she said.

The library's model is one of three pillars.

Environmental stability is the first; most of the toys are donated, which diverts them from landfill.

Second is children's development by focusing on oral language skills and imaginative play.

Community connectedness comes in third.

Because a committee of volunteers runs the library, it is a third space where people value being able to play and stay, which is a preventable mental health strategy.

"We do it for families and kids."

Ms Corcoran estimates in the six years she has volunteered, she has lent out more than \$10,000 worth of toys.

"That's incredible value." ●

"Something just didn't feel right": MP questions role of historic Bishops court

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*
HOMELESSNESS

Walking past the grand colonial mansion Bishops court in East Melbourne, on one October day while the state faces a homelessness crisis, Victorian MP Fiona Patten conceded "something just didn't feel right".

"Amid a seemingly intractable crisis of homelessness in one of the wealthiest nations, when more than 115,000 people, 35,000 of them in Melbourne and Victoria, have no safe and stable place to be, Bishops court houses but two people; the Anglican leader and his wife," the leader of the Reason Party said.

The 169-year-old mansion, which is located at Clarendon St, overlooks the Fitzroy Gardens, and has

been used as the residence for all of Melbourne's Anglican diocesan bishops and archbishops since it was built in 1853.

"It would be wonderful to see churches publicly undertake to review their landholdings and examine how they might partner with governments, business, and other community organisations to alleviate homelessness," Ms Patten said.

In response, Melbourne Anglican Archbishop Philip Freier said Bishops court was "far from simply a residence" as it "continues to be a place of gathering for a wide range of parish, school, and welfare agency activity as well the wider community".

"The Anglican Church hosts community housing across Melbourne and Geelong, including at its East

Melbourne, Burnley and Brunswick parishes. Homelessness services operate out of St Peter's Eastern Hill and St Mark's Fitzroy," he said.

"The Anglican community service agencies, Anglicare Victoria and the Brotherhood of St Laurence, are heavily engaged in relieving disadvantage and advocating for social change."

However, Ms Patten argued there was "no doubt the opportunity churches have to examine how they might better use their immense landholdings to serve their congregations and communities". "Religions, among the biggest property owners in this nation and so many others, receive massive tax breaks on land and on profitable business operations," she said.

"There's great scope and need for

collaboration to fix homelessness. The government and the churches have the opportunity to make an almighty difference together, and fast." "Victoria is facing an exponential increase in homelessness over the next two decades unless it acts immediately to cut the number of young people currently experiencing the crisis."

Ms Patten said as she had long argued, the most efficient and cost-effective way to solve homelessness was to provide the homeless with a home.

"It's a policy called 'housing first' and it works around the world – and saves taxpayers' money. It worked here, by proxy, when people were taken off the streets and given shelter during pandemic lockdowns."

Ms Patten's comments come as the Council to Homeless Persons CEO Jenny Smith raised the alarm that the



rising cost of living costs were pushing Victorians to the brink.

"More renters are being pushed into homelessness because they can't find a rental they can afford," she said.

"Homelessness services are overwhelmed with people desperate for a home, and too many Victorians in urgent need of homelessness support, are missing out." ●

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Fenton Food and Wine: an idea that flourished

WORDS BY *Carol Saffer*
BUSINESS

Cooking only with what is in season provides peak tastes and supports the environment.

The notion of seasonal farm-grown produce cooked and taken to the table to share with the community is what drives Nesbert Kagonda and business partner Ruby Clark.

They present their food and hospitality philosophy as co-owners of Fenton Food and Wine in Rathdowne St, Carlton.

It has been a long journey that has grown through the generosity of other people's skills and the couple's never-ending persistence.

Since a tough start in 2019 when COVID's impact played havoc with people's lives and businesses, the duo persevered with what Mr Kagonda refers to as the "cool idea" of farm to table.

"Learning where the food comes from creates a point of difference for us," Mr Kagonda said.

Two people with a concept but no experience in farming or recipe creation, let alone cooking skills, have shown constant tenacity to bring their idea successfully to market.

In their first stage, they were true beginners who created a local grocery shop further down Rathdowne St from the current location, providing local customers with produce from Mr Kagonda's father's farm in South Gippsland.

A year ago, they took over a small section of a large farm in Clarkefield, around 40 kilometres north-west of Melbourne.

It was close enough to the city that members of their community helped and learned how to plant and nurture food.

Still, on their steep learning curve, they planted seedlings, and while not all of them grew, they harvested enough to cook in the space they created to share food with the locals.



"We made it a reality, and it was starting to get exciting," he said. "We are still trying to work on how to grow enough food to meet our needs consistently."

There was an abundance in autumn, but when winter arrived, they struggled.

They gave no thought to preserving some autumn bounty to help them through winter.

Forming partnerships with other hospitality venues was another option they undertook.

Manze, a Mauritian restaurant in North Melbourne, has joined in the farming in Clarkefield, and it's growing tomatoes with Carlton's Heartattack and Vine European-style café.

"Having other groups sharing the load is making our idea more realistic," Mr Kagonda said.

Without the opportunity they were given by the Clarkefield farm owners, their initiative may not have come to fruition.

"We are learning and growing, and this



reminds us of where we came from and where we are going," he said.

The original ideas of how to use the produce to create meals people would enjoy rests on the shoulders of their first chef Yemenite Lubna Bahashwan.

"We would go to the farm with Lubna and come up with recipe ideas from the garden."

At the time, they were unafraid of failure, which gave them knowledge of what did not work.

An African influence runs through the menu, with traditional and experimental spice blends frequently used, paying homage to Lubna's background and Mr Kagonda's early life in Zimbabwe.

"It reminds us of where we came from," he said.

Chakalaka, a South African vegetable relish, usually spicy and traditionally served with bread, stews, or curries, makes a regular appearance on the menu.

Amagwinya, translated in English as "fat cake", is a tasty doughnut snack eaten by South Africans, Ghanaians and people from Zimbabwe that often features on Fenton's harvest dinner menu weekly from Thursday to Saturday 6pm to 11pm.

“

"We are learning and growing, and this reminds us of where we came from and where we are going," he said.

”

The food is partnered with a short and sharp wine list with most wines from Victoria.

Mr Kagonda said most of their customers were locals making up 90 per cent of people who regularly dined with them.

"For me, familiarity with our customers is important; it's great to greet people by name and share our hospitality as if we are eating with our family." ●

For more information:
fentonfoodandwine.com



Carol Saffer

JOURNALIST

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See a Melbourne view last experienced nearly 100 years ago

WORDS BY *Carol Saffer*
ARTS & CULTURE

Melbourne's Royal Exhibition Building's dome promenade opened to the public on Saturday, October 29.

The dome promenade was a strong attraction of the 1880 and 1888 international exhibitions providing visitors with an opportunity to view the Melbourne skyline.

The Royal Exhibition Building was the first Australian building to be awarded a UNESCO World Heritage Listing.

The federal government funded the Protection and Promotion Project, ensuring the restoration and preservation of the dome promenade as it was during the 19th century.

The dome promenade, including the timber deck outside the building and a gallery exhibition space, was under construction from 2018 to 2020.

A Melbourne Museum spokesperson said the promenade would be open to visitors all year



round, apart from when the building is holding events.

Tours of a maximum of 30 people are running four times a day; at the time of publication, the tours are sold out until late December.

Museums Victoria CEO and Director Lynley Crosswell said, "I am delighted we can now welcome visitors to Melbourne's 'newest oldest attraction', the Royal Exhibition Building's Dome Promenade."

"We are especially pleased to be opening during springtime, offering visitors a



spectacular view of Carlton Gardens in full bloom and an outlook over Melbourne not experienced for nearly 100 years."

The Royal Exhibition Building joins a group of prestigious buildings offering dome tours and rooftop access.

St Peter's Basilica in the Vatican allows visitors to climb up to Michelangelo's dome and view the layout of the Basilica from above.

At the Duomo of Milan, visitors are encouraged to "walk between the earth and sky" on the rooftop of Europe's second-biggest cathedral.

The interior of the dome of St Paul's Cathedral in London can be reached by climbing 528 steps.

The Royal Exhibition Building dome promenade guided tours start at a meeting point in the Melbourne Museum foyer before travelling across to the basement, mezzanine and lower promenade, which are wheelchair accessible via a lift.

To reach the upper dome promenade on the fourth level, tour participants must climb around 20 steps.

For the exhilarating experience of walking around the entire upper promenade, people must climb additional stairs to enjoy the 360-degree view.

Both the upper and lower promenade are outside and exposed to the elements. ●

For more information:
museumsvictoria.com.au

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Your City of Melbourne community update

GRANTS HELP NEIGHBOURS PRESERVE HISTORIC STREETSAPES

Passionate Melburnians are making-over their heritage places to help preserve beautiful streetscapes for generations to come.

Heritage plays a key role in making Melbourne a place where people love to live, work and visit.

To preserve the city's unique character, we offer heritage grants to help people complete restoration projects at residential, community and commercial properties across the municipality.

We recently awarded two heritage grants to neighbours on McCracken Street in Kensington.

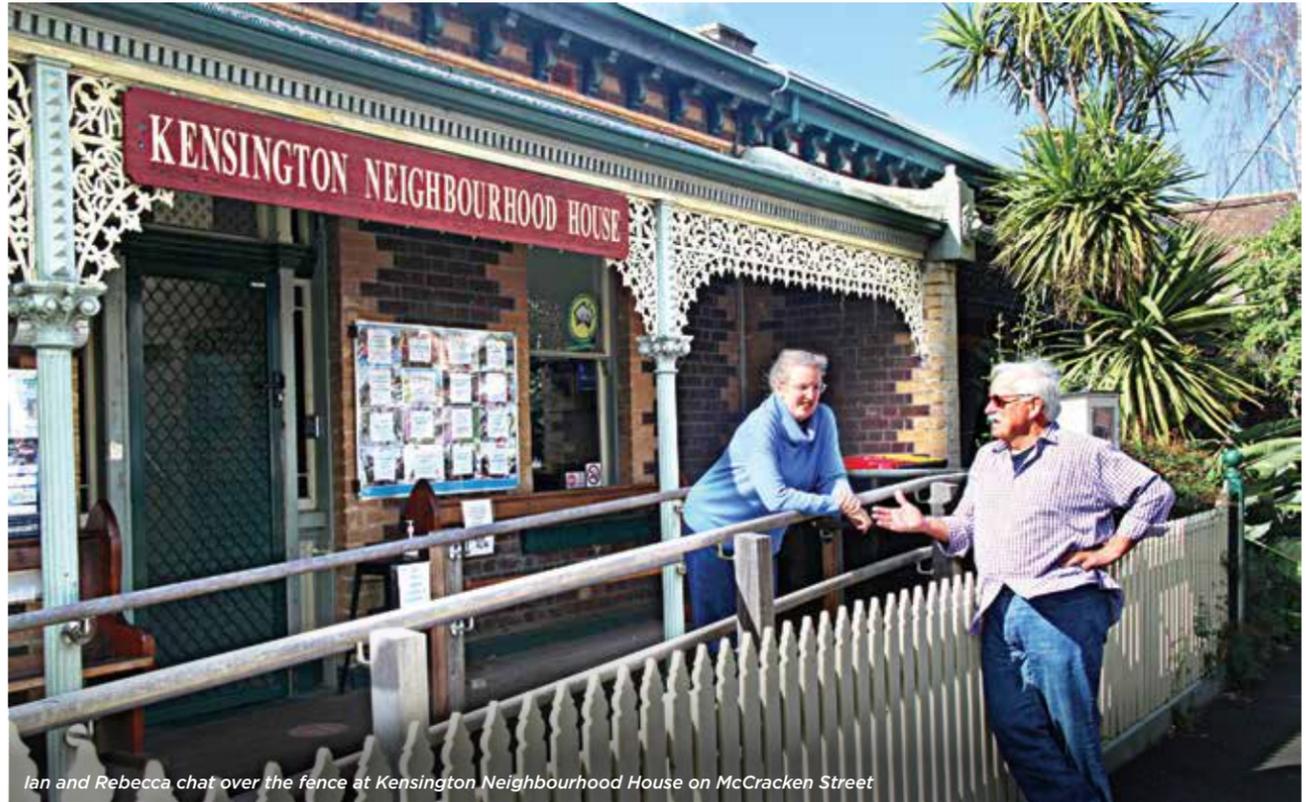
Ian Porter restored floor tiles on his verandah, and Kensington Neighbourhood House replaced the stained glass on its front-door sidelights.

A common feature on McCracken Street, the sidelights cast a beautiful crimson glow into homes during summer sunsets.

'I was pleased to be able to access a grant to restore our verandah and make it safe, as some of the tiles were broken. The project has been well worth it,' Ian said.

'When you live in a heritage home, you can modernise the inside to make it liveable, but exterior restoration helps preserve the character of the streetscape.'

Kensington Neighbourhood House runs educational, wellbeing and social events to bring diverse local people together. Manager Rebecca Smith said restoration helps make the community hub a welcoming place.



Ian and Rebecca chat over the fence at Kensington Neighbourhood House on McCracken Street

'The heritage grants program gave us the opportunity to repair our sidelights, which were cracked and broken, to help restore this beautiful building to its former glory,' Rebecca said.

'Projects like this help make the Kensington Neighbourhood House a welcoming and friendly place that the community can be proud of.'

Ian and Rebecca have both lived in Kensington for decades and love the character and community of the suburb.

'Kensington is a very historic area. We love walking our dog, Lucy, down along the old stock route,' Ian said.

Looking to the future, the neighbours will continue to take care of their piece of local heritage.

Kensington Neighbourhood House recently replaced its slate roof, which has made it watertight and ready to face another hundred years.

Roof works are on Ian's wish-list too, and he's also planning to paint his front door to continue to maintain his home's facade.

About the heritage grants program

First established in 1988, the Melbourne Heritage Restoration Fund is our local fund for heritage grants, held within the Victorian Heritage Restoration Fund. Grants are administered by the National Trust of Victoria.

How to apply for a heritage grant

Have you been thinking about a project that would transform your heritage place? A little restoration work can go a long way to transforming your building and keeping it in great condition for years to come.

To be eligible, your property must be within a heritage overlay and located in the City of Melbourne. The works must also be visible from the public realm.

To find out more, visit melbourne.vic.gov.au/heritagegrants

More off-leash areas for our four-legged friends

If there's one thing we know, it's that Melburnians just love dogs.

For it is our fabulous loyal four-legged friends who encourage us to lead active and healthy lifestyles, and importantly offer companionship like no other.

Since 2018, the number of dogs registered within the City of Melbourne has increased by a huge 44 per cent from 3292 to 4750.

That includes a 20 per cent increase in the past two years alone.

As the number of dogs and dog owners in our city increases, so does the need for everyone to have access to safe and secure spaces in which to frolic.

Council is doubling the number of off-leash dog areas within the municipality.

Over the coming months, there will be more than three hectares of new off-leash parkland added to the existing 16 hectares - that's five times the size of Federation Square.

New designated off-leash areas for dogs

- Eades Park, West Melbourne
- Kings Way and Moray Street Reserve, Southbank
- Ron Barassi Senior Park, Docklands
- Royal Park (Manningham Reserve), Parkville

Timed off-leash areas

- Wellington Park, East Melbourne
- Point Park, Docklands
- Riverside Park, Kensington

To ensure everyone can enjoy our parklands safely, timed off-leash access is available between 6pm and 8am from November to March, and 5pm to 9am from April and October.

Top five dog breeds within the City of Melbourne

1. Cavoodle
2. Greyhound
3. Labrador
4. French Bulldog
5. Mini Dachshund

Visit melbourne.vic.gov.au/dogwalking for details.



We're creating more off-leash parkland for our furry friends

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Your City of Melbourne community update

How we support food security in Melbourne

Melbourne is a famously liveable city. We're renowned for the quality of our food and world-class dining and hospitality scene.

Despite this, in 2021, about one in three residents experienced food insecurity and only 4 per cent of adults consumed the minimum recommended daily serves of fruit and vegetables, our City of Melbourne Community Indicators Survey 2021 shows.

That's why we're taking steps to make sure everyone in the community has access to affordable, fresh and healthy food.

Community Food Guide and community food map

Increasing levels of food insecurity is a health, social and economic issue.

As a council, we're focused on strengthening food relief initiatives and supporting communities to grow their own food through our Community Food Relief Plan 2021-25.

We have a history of working with the community on food security, and we'll continue to ensure those in need can access food relief.

Our Community Food Guide is a helpful resource for community agencies or anyone in the community who needs information about how to access affordable, fresh and healthy food.

We've also committed to partnering with food relief and other charities – like SecondBite – to provide groceries and meals to vulnerable residents.

We're looking into community food enterprise models, including opportunities to work with Queen Victoria Market traders to redirect edible surplus food that would otherwise go to waste.

This work will help reduce overall food insecurity to 25 per cent by 2025, back to pre-pandemic levels.

Explore our Community Food Guide and food map at melbourne.vic.gov.au/communityfoodguide to find free or low-cost meals, food banks, community gardens and cooking and growing classes near you.

Grow your own

Filled with spinach, cauliflower and kale, the crops in Melbourne's communal food gardens in Boyd, Docklands, Drill Hall, East Melbourne, Melbourne University, North Melbourne, Southbank and Kensington are thriving.

We support the Kensington Stockyard Food Garden, established in 2018, which features more than 100 square metres of growing space, an Indigenous garden and fruit forest with more than 30 trees, including figs, apples, citrus, elderberry, and other berries.

Nan Austin, chair of the Kensington Stockyard Food Garden said the growing is primarily in self-wicking beds as the stockyard is paved with bluestone.

'While we make some compost onsite we cannot meet our ongoing needs so we recently purchased two tonnes of compost from the City of Melbourne green waste program,' she said.

'We've done the sums and we're using a whopping 5000 litres of compost each year, which is equivalent to at least five tonnes of food and green waste redirected from landfill.'

As well as feeding members with fresh produce, the Kensington Stockyard Food Garden delivers kilograms of vegetables to a local food pantry to be shared with the community, and collects seeds for reuse in the future. Excess seed is shared at regular plant swap meets.

Getting creative with our food and garden organics waste

Food and the ways we produce and dispose of it has a huge impact on our environment. In fact, if food waste were a country, it would be the world's third largest emitter of greenhouse gasses.

About 45 per cent of our residential landfill bins are made up of organic waste, which ends up in landfill producing methane gas, odour and contributing to climate change.

We're taking steps to cut this in half, and achieve zero net emissions by 2040, with our new food and garden organics waste service.

Since launching, we've provided 23,000 households in the City of Melbourne with the food and garden organics service, diverting more than 1400 tonnes of organic waste from landfill.

That's the equivalent weight of 46 Melbourne trams.

We've just begun trialling the organic waste we collect as compost for our local parks and gardens in Kensington. We're also about to commence a pilot program, testing on-site food waste processing in up to six high-rise apartment buildings.

Visit melbourne.compostapak.com.au for more information.

SENSORY GARDEN A DELIGHT FOR PEOPLE WITH DEMENTIA

Enjoy nature, get your hands dirty and enjoy garden-to-plate morning teas at Kensington's sensory garden.

We've created a beautiful garden at Kensington Neighbourhood Centre where local people, including people living with dementia and their carers, can come together for a weekly gardening and social group.

A professional gardener from Cultivating Community is on hand to guide participants through optional light gardening activities designed to ignite the senses and facilitate a connection with nature.

The fun continues with morning tea, often featuring produce grown in the garden, like herbs and edible flowers.

Visits to Kensington Neighbourhood Centre's sensory garden are free, but bookings are essential.

To register, contact Healthy Ageing on 9658 9190 or email healthyageing@melbourne.vic.gov.au



Fresh produce at Queen Victoria Market

IN BRIEF

MARVELLOUS MELBURNIANS

Celebrating 20 years, the Melbourne Awards are the City of Melbourne's highest accolade, celebrating inspirational people and organisations making extraordinary contributions to our community. The awards acknowledge the contribution of 27 finalists in 8 categories: Aboriginal Melbourne – ganbu guljin, arts and events, community, hospitality, knowledge and innovation, LGBTIQ+, sustainability and urban design.

Tune in to Channel 9 at 4pm, Sunday 13 November to find out who wins.

Learn more about the finalists at melbourne.vic.gov.au/melbourneawards

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ORDER YOUR FREE KITCHEN CADDY NOW

Kerbside collection for food and garden organics is now available to residents living in apartment buildings up to five storeys.

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Visit melbourne.compostapak.com.au for more information.

A COMMUNITY THAT CARES

At the City of Melbourne, we are committed to bringing people together, fostering communities that connect, care and collaborate.

From supporting new parents, to acting on food security and making sure our city is a great place to age, we're here for everyone.

Visit melbourne.vic.gov.au/community to learn more.



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New “neighbourhood portals” go live for East Melbourne, Carlton and Parkville

WORDS BY *David Schout*
COUNCIL AFFAIRS

Online portals for East Melbourne, Carlton and Parkville have been launched by the City of Melbourne, providing a dedicated space to keep up to date with works and events in their respective local areas.

The council’s 10 new “neighbourhood portals” — each covering different suburbs in the municipality — are intended to be a one-stop space that covers all relevant, hyperlocal information for those who live, work or study locally.

This includes, for example, development activity updates, how to book a space or meeting room, how to apply for funding, and importantly, how to have your say on things that are impacting the local community.

Notably, the council has employed “partners” for the three suburbs (and all seven other neighbourhoods), who will act as the main point-of-contact on specific issues within the area.

It is hoped that the initiative will allow the community to better connect with the council by helping share their ideas for the future.

The council has acknowledged that there were vast differences in different suburbs within the municipality (for example, between East Melbourne and Docklands) and said its new “place-based” neighbourhood approach would ensure it could understand and respond to unique communities.

It said that this model ensured a “continuous



cycle of community engagement”, where local knowledge and priorities were translated into action.

“We know that each neighbourhood has different needs, opportunities and challenges, so we’re proud to be rolling out a dedicated Neighbourhood Portal for every community across the municipality,” Lord Mayor Sally Capp told *Inner City News*.

“We’re listening to our inner-city communities, who’ve told us that maintaining and enhancing biodiversity within our urban environment and improving local transport is important to them.”

“That’s why we’re bringing more nature into the city through our Urban Forest Strategy and community gardening programs. We’re also committed to delivering on our Transport Strategy 2030 by reducing speed limits on local



streets and bringing more protected bike lanes into the network.”

The portals were endorsed at the council’s Future Melbourne Committee meeting on June 14. The council’s Health, Wellbeing and Belonging portfolio chair Cr Dr Olivia Ball said at the time that it was important recognition of suburbs outside the Hoddle Grid.

“Many people think of the City of Melbourne as the CBD, but it is, in fact, as you well know, the CBD plus all of the surrounding suburbs and each of them has its own needs and distinctive features,” Cr Dr Ball said.

The council will create a database of people’s views on certain topics, not merely from locals’ input into the online portal but from letters and phone calls, which would be tagged by topic and location.

“We will build up, for our purposes, an

internal-facing knowledge bank where we can find [for example] ‘what does North Melbourne think about off-leash dog parks?’ Or ‘what does North Melbourne think about vaccinations?’ Etc, so we have — building up over time — an accessible and accurate picture of what the community wants on different topics.”

The first two neighbourhood portals (for the CBD and Kensington) were launched in June and have received 1800 unique visitors in the first three months according to the council.

As of October 26, all 10 neighbourhood portals were live. The remaining eight are: Carlton, Docklands, East Melbourne, North Melbourne, Parkville, Southbank, South Yarra and West Melbourne. ●

For more information:
participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au/neighbourhoods



David Schout
JOURNALIST
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Melbourne Fringe Festival puppet cabaret was a hit

WORDS BY *Carol Saffer*
ARTS & CULTURE

When the lights dimmed in the Meeting Room at Trades Hall, and the melodic sounds of Anohni opened the performance of *They Came From Uranus*, the audience knew they were in for a treat.

Master puppeteer Murray Raine brought to life his extravagant “humanette” puppets performing a humorous risqué show of sexy, sassy and unashamedly decadent displays of high camp hilarity.

In a one-person show, Mr Raine enacted every character with only his face visible atop each outrageously dressed Humanette body.

His perfect lip-syncing to the retro soundtrack of classics like Sony and Cher’s *Gypsies, tramps and thieves* and Barry Manilow’s hit *Copacabana* was equally matched with suggestive movements and salacious quips.

Throughout the 50-minute routine, Mr Raine was lightning quick when changing characters, with each costume more startling than the one before.

Designer Isaac Lummis let his imagination run wild when creating the humanettes’ outfits.

At the same time, Mr Raine handled their bodily dimensions and functions with a degree of hysterical deviancy that got more out of



hand as the show progressed.

The storyline is easy to follow, with the show set in Busty Barb’s Bar and cabaret club.

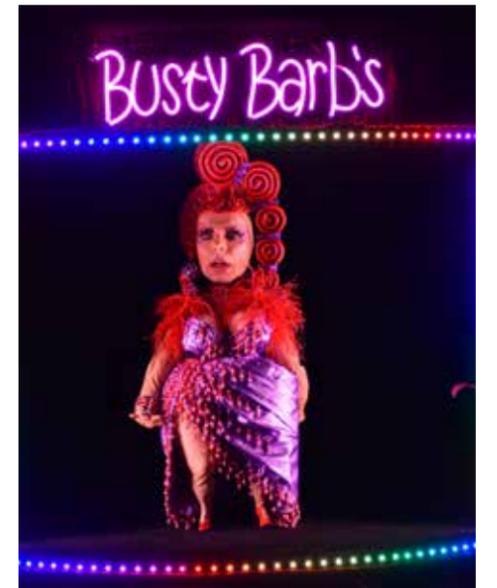
Alien beings from Uranus speed through the galaxies to Earth to capture social influencer Miss Candy Carcrashian, a luscious and lurid burlesque artiste, to return with her, back to their planet in the solar system.

At Busty Barb’s, each character performs while the aliens get closer and closer to capturing

their elusive quarry.

When Miss Candy Carcrashian took to the stage with a song titled *Just a Little Friendly Cat*, the audience laughed until they had tears in their eyes as she sang about “her soft wet hot pussy”.

One of the audience members Dave Lejarcegui said at the end of the show, “it didn’t feel like an hour; it was hilarious, and I will never look at my cat the same way again.”



Also in the audience was Collin Phillips, who was a fan of the show.

“The costume changes were on point, and right from the beginning, when Anohni’s music started, it set the show’s tone for me,” he said.

Mr Raine created the humanettes and co-wrote the show with his partner Neil Ray. ●



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A place for every student

A unique outlook, broad curriculum and a focus on brilliant teaching are part of Haileybury City's success story.

WORDS BY *Jack Hayes*

Haileybury's City campus is a vertical school and each day students immerse themselves in their busy and unique surroundings surrounded by floor to ceiling views of the Melbourne cityscape.

The very location of the Haileybury City campus guarantees it is a school with a difference. Located on King St in the heart of Melbourne's CBD, and opposite the city's oldest park, learning at the state-of-the-art campus in the city brings a busy, real-world edge to the school day.

The location also brings opportunities to make the most of the cultural, educational, historical and sporting sights and facilities that are, literally, on the doorstep. From MSAC, Whitten Oval and the State Netball and Hockey Centre to the theatres and art galleries, these places all become classrooms to its city students.

Haileybury City also offers a different education experience not only because of its CBD location, but because it is a vertical campus and community enjoyed by students, teachers and



parents, who are regular visitors to the campus to attend events.

"Parents love watching their child flourishing in the classroom. They also enjoy seeing how things have changed since they were at school. Understanding the important role that parents play in fostering and nurturing a love of learning is vital – parents are important partners at Haileybury City," said Caroline Merrick, Head of Campus Haileybury City.

Its youngest students join the Early Learning Centre (ELC) on the lower levels and, as students progress through the school years, they move up the building with senior students occupying the highest levels. The building also accommodates all the learning spaces expected of a quality school, such as library, art and drama studios, science laboratories and music rooms.

Haileybury City prides itself on offering a diverse curriculum with subjects to match the interests of every student. As well as core



numeracy and literacy subjects, other subjects that are part of the Junior and Middle School curriculum include Health, History and Geography, Visual Arts, Music and Drama, Science, Communications and Digital Technologies (CDT), Library and Mandarin.

Junior School students from Prep to Year 4 build core literacy and numeracy skills with Haileybury's successful Explicit Teaching Model. Based on an "I Do, We Do and You Do" approach, enabling young minds to build knowledge, skills and confidence in the classroom.

By the time students move to Middle School, they are strong and independent learners who know how to question, explore and problem-solve. Students who discover a passion subject can follow their interests in Senior School and the VCE years.

So, every student can find their special place. At the heart of the city campus is Haileybury's

focus on "brilliant teaching".

"A brilliant teacher is constantly curious about their practice, pedagogy, curriculum and the world," Haileybury CEO/Principal, Derek Scott said.

Head of Haileybury City Caroline Merrick agrees that "brilliant" teachers bring something different to their teaching.

"They bring something different to their maths teaching. They want to lift a student's engagement in the arts. They think beyond teaching a business management course so it becomes something entrepreneurial," she said.

"At Haileybury, brilliant teaching is a culture of high expectations, hard work and collaboration, underpinned by our philosophy that every student matters every day." ●

For more information:
haileybury.com.au



Jack Hayes

BUSINESS EDITOR

JACK@HYPERLOCALNEWS.COM.AU

Jam-packed 2023 Melbourne Symphony Orchestra program announced

“

The 2023 Melbourne Symphony Orchestra (MSO) program of nearly 200 events has been announced this week, released by the chief conductor Jaime Martin.

”

WORDS BY *Jemma van Zaanen*

Audiences can expect to see 36 Australian works and 86 guest soloists and conductors, including 26 debut appearances throughout the year.

The focus of the program will be on "the majesty of nature through music", and the celebration of Russian composer Sergei Rachmaninov's 150th musical anniversary year.



▲ *Melbourne Symphony Orchestra.*

Audiences will also be invited to enjoy violin concertos by global leading soloists.

Half of the guest artists on the main stage are female and 10 out of 17 MSO commissions are composed by women, according to the MSO.

To start off the year, the MSO will present the Season Opening Gala *Zenith of Life*, featuring the soloist in residence Siobhan Stagg performing Richard Strauss' *Four Last Songs*.

Australian MSO composer in residence Mary Finsterer will then premiere her new work *Mysterium I* at the gala.

Mr Martin said he was thrilled to be able to release the 2023 program.

"Each day that I work with the MSO, I am genuinely inspired and invigorated by the



Photo: Laura Manariti

passion and professionalism of the players and the organisation," he said.

"I can't wait to share this excitement and energy with audiences across Victoria during the magnificent 2023 season."

The Sidney Myer Free Concert Series will return later in 2023, with Johannes Fritzsich conducting the MSO in *A Tchaikovsky Spectacular*.

The Free Series will continue with the principal conductor in residence Benjamin Northey taking the lead for *Mosaics*, a celebration of Melbourne's diversity which will feature Melbourne-based contemporary artists.

Mr Northey will return for Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana* featuring the voices of the MSO Chorus and accompanied on piano by the

winner of Lev Vlassenko Piano Competition, Hannah Shin.

Next year's program will mark 20 years from when Mr Northey first conducted the MSO and 20 years of the artist development program with The Cybec Foundation. These will be celebrated when Mr Northey conducts a special performance at the Melbourne Town Hall in November 2023. There will also be special showcase at the start of the year for the Cybec 21st Century Australian Composers program.

Managing director Sophie Galaise said the 20-year legacy was an inspiring success story for both.

"Next year, two wonderful concerts will celebrate the enormous legacy of a generous and progressive donor and the extraordinary career of Ben, our much-loved principal conductor in residence," Ms Galaise said.

The MSO will also tour across Victoria throughout 2023 and continue its work with schools, and extend its audience through "digital channels". ●

For more information:
mso.com.au



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BUSINESS

Improving kids' wellbeing with the power of therapy

For clinical psychologist, Moulya Ramesh Kumar, her life and career have been lived inspired by a simple Buddhist mantra: "pain is inevitable, but suffering is optional".

WORDS BY Jack Hayes



▲ Dynamic Psychotherapy's Moulya Ramesh Kumar.

It's through this philosophical lens that Ms Ramesh Kumar, a therapist at Carlton psychology clinic Dynamic Psychotherapy, has gained the expertise in treating adolescents and children.

"Being a psychologist has been something I have always wanted to do, and I have known that for a very long time; probably since I was 15 or 16," Ms Ramesh Kumar said. "I have always been goal-oriented and known what I wanted and knew how to get there."

"I drew a lot of inspiration from my experiences as a child and how social caring and nurturing allowed me to use trauma as an opportunity for growth."

"I thought if I could do this, I could help other people do it as well and help them understand they do have a choice, if the right help is provided."

The team at Dynamic Psychotherapy specialises in the teaching and implementation of Intensive Short-term Dynamic Psychotherapy (ISTDP), "an accelerated form of psychodynamic psychotherapy designed to provide rapid access to the unconscious and deep and lasting change".

Under the tutelage of experienced ISTDP clinical psychologist and Dynamic Psychotherapy director, Julie Cochrane, Ms Ramesh Kumar is about to begin her advanced training in ISTDP as part of her clinic's professional development

and training program.

While accessing early childhood experiences through the ISTDP method is generally reserved for adults with great life experience, Ms Ramesh Kumar said elements from the practice enabled her to work with the child's attachment relationships in a way that maximised healthy emotional development.

"What primarily differs between the three groups is that children need more structure and clear direction in helping them make sense of their difficulties, and using play as medium can be helpful in this process," Ms Ramesh Kumar said. "Using symbolic work, children are quick to engage if they can feel safe with an adult and explore what they want to."

"With adolescents it is figuring out what they really want, because they are in the process of understanding themselves. You have to strike a gentle balance of giving them space to do what they want to do, but also giving them structure."

"With adults, our sessions are very client driven. We give you the space to see what works for them. Driven by their motivation and goals and what they want out of life."

In addition to therapy, Ms Ramesh Kumar also conducts assessments for cognitive development and neurodiverse conditions

like attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and autism spectrum disorder (ASD).

Ms Ramesh Kumar told *Inner City News* it was important to see and treat these groups as neurodiverse, not atypical.

"All of us have different ways of working, and these children have been born with diverse ways of understanding and responding to situations," she said.

"They can grow up to have successful and fulfilling lives if help can be provided early on in their lives. I think that is where early recognition diagnosis and intervention can go a long way in, not just supporting the child, but also providing support for their wider network which includes school and caregivers."

"Helping the parents understand what is going on from their child's eyes. Things can get stuck if parents are not equipped with the skills to assist their child's particular difficulties."

According to Ms Ramesh Kumar, following the pandemic, there had been a sharp increase of diagnosis of neurodiversity in adults.

She puts it down to growing the broader conversation regarding mental health issues and knowing that it is okay to ask for help.

"We all go through mental health issues at one point or another in our lives. This doesn't mean we are mentally ill, but it says something has come up in life that has given us the opportunity to rework certain experiences that have led to current suffering," Ms Ramesh Kumar said.

"We help the individual take control and rework what did not go well in their past."

"It helps give people a sense of agency with regards to what is going on rather than being in pain or suffering. We give you the resources to deal with pain and suffering differently." ●

For more information:

dynamicpsychotherapy.com.au

FEDERAL MP



Climate crisis continues

Last month, as I stood watching the flood waters rise in Kensington and locals worry about their homes and safety, it was crystal clear that the climate crisis is happening right here, right now in Melbourne.

Coal and gas are fuelling the climate crisis, but the Victorian Labor Government wants to open up new gas drilling, near the 12 Apostles.

We're in a climate crisis, but Labor and Liberal want new coal and gas.

Only the Greens have a plan to get out of coal and gas and replace it with 100 per cent renewable energy by 2030.

This month, Victorians will head to the polls once more for the state election. In Canberra, we've seen the power of Greens to push Labor further and faster to act on the climate crisis. Now is our chance to do the same thing in the Victorian Parliament.

During the past eight years, I have worked closely with my colleague in the Victorian Parliament Ellen Sandell to deliver for our neighbourhoods. Alongside the community, Ellen has secured new school campuses in North Melbourne and \$13 million extra for nurses and midwives at our local public hospitals. I am confident that Ellen can continue to be your strong, independent voice in Parliament, restoring integrity and working for you.

Melbourne is a fantastic place to live, but many in our community are doing it tough, with the cost-of-living crisis spiralling out of control. As Labor delivered its first Budget last week, they had a choice, tax cuts for billionaires and politicians, or immediate cost of living relief.

It was disappointing to see Labor choose tax cuts for the wealthy, while everyone else was left waiting. People can't afford childcare, can't afford the rent and can't afford to go to the dentist. They can't afford insurance, and they can't afford the power bills.

We must do more to address the cost of living right now. That's why the Greens will keep fighting to get dental into Medicare for everyone, deliver free childcare and wipe student debt.

In a wealthy country like Australia, everyone should have a roof over their head. But the homelessness crisis remains, and renters are doing it tough. In the first six months of 2022, the big four banks made \$14 billion in profit, while interest rates grew.

The Greens will make housing affordable and end the special treatment for property developers. We'll cap rents, giving renters' real rights and require 30 per cent of large new developments to be set aside for first home buyers.

This November, vote Greens for climate action, rent caps and integrity in government. ●



Adam Bandt

FEDERAL MP FOR MELBOURNE

ADAM.BANDT.MP@APH.GOV.AU

Reimagining your general store

The traditional notion of a corner store milk bar is one steeped in nostalgia and tradition.

WORDS BY Jack Hayes

For many growing up before the turn of the millennium, a milk bar was the first place you spent your pocket money; a milk bar was the place you would dutifully head to when your mum needed some milk or eggs; and a milk bar was also a place where the store owner knew your name.

While they may not have survived in every suburb across the city, East Melbourne residents can safely say theirs still remains, and with it, that same old-fashioned familiarity and service.

The East Melbourne General Store is the beating heart of East Melbourne and home to active local resident, Lisette Malatesta.

After purchasing the property in 2015, Ms Malatesta made an agreement with former owners Norm and Anna Daher to continue the store's legacy of community care and service into the future; just as they had done for the previous 25 years.

"This site, here on Hotham St, has been a general store since the inception of the suburb," Ms Malatesta said. "Back in the 1800s it was a dairy depot and part of the reason Hotham St is this wide is so milk trucks could do a U-turn in it."

Ms Malatesta's knowledge of her home and local area is encyclopaedic.

With her level of local knowledge, it is hard to imagine she has stepped outside of postcode 3002, but with a decorated career in architecture, working with some of our city's most famous hospitality and tertiary institutions, the more you find out about Ms Malatesta, the more incredible her story becomes.

She has served as communications convenor and secretary of the East Melbourne Group, she has worked with the East Melbourne Historical



▲ East Melbourne General Store owner and local resident, Lisette Malatesta, with fresh in-store offerings.

and didn't know the store was here."

It's an unfortunate circumstance with a simple resolution: if we want our local businesses to continue and thrive, we need to support them, just as they have supported us.

"There is still a place for a milk bar, it is more than just a retail outlet, it's a hub for a community. If you go to any country town, there is always a store like this," Ms Malatesta said.

"We know if our customer has had a bad day, and often, you are seeing us more than you are seeing family and friends."

"When you go to a supermarket, you don't see the same faces day in, day out. It's like visiting a friend to come to a shop like this, especially for people who live alone. We might be the only people they see all day."

Just as Ms Malatesta was passed the baton in 2016 to continue the rich history of 53 Hotham St, East Melbourne, the torch now lies in the community's hands to reimagine what it truly means to "shop local".

After all, where would we have been without the help of a general store at some point in our lives? ●

For more information:

eastmelbournegeneralstore.com

Died due to war service



With Remembrance Day coming up it seems a fitting time to acknowledge one of East Melbourne's many residents who enlisted to serve their King and Country in the Great War. Shown here is Henri Joseph Lamande, in one of the more diverting photos in our society's collection.



For him perhaps there was the added incentive to visit the land of his ancestors.

Lamande was born in 1884 in Majorca, near Maryborough in Victoria. This little town was established in 1863 after gold was discovered nearby. It survived for about 50 years but is now, according to Wikipedia, a ghost town.

Probably his parents saw the writing on the wall and moved to the city before its final collapse. By 1905 they were living in Amorique, 115 Hotham St, East Melbourne, named for the part of France where the family originated, the Cotes-d'Armor in Brittany. It was a big timber house but unfortunately not up to the standards of modern times and it was demolished in the 1970s to be replaced by units, still bearing the same name.

The photo was taken at the back of the old house and shows Henri working on his shiny new Abingdon motorcycle. It appears to be a 1909-10 model which helps to date the photo. Henri was a bit of a motorcycle nut. His business was importing and selling motorcycles, but his real love was to sit astride one himself and see how fast it could go. He competed in races that were 100 or 200 miles long. He was never a champion, but his enthusiasm remained unabated.

Henri's companion, the kangaroo, looks quite relaxed. Its front paw rests on the rear wheel of the motorcycle as if it is thinking about jumping aboard. One can't help wondering about life for such a large animal on a small suburban block. Was it allowed inside? Did it go for "walks" in the Fitzroy Gardens? Advertisements for pet kangaroos at the time often advertised "excellent boxer". Hilariously this one was not one of those.

Henri's war service started when he enlisted on November 15, 1915, and he was appointed to the 2nd



▲ Henri Joseph Lamande at home in East Melbourne.

Division Signal Company at Broadmeadows. He embarked aboard the *Armada* on July 19, 1916, as part of the 14th Reinforcements. After another 10 months training in England, he was finally sent to France.

The work of the signal companies was largely about laying and maintaining cables between headquarters and the trenches. It was dangerous work as the men were often operating in exposed conditions. By the time Henri was involved in the war Morse code messages were sent using Fullerphones. Unlike the standard telephone these ingenious devices could not be overheard by the enemy. Other forms of communication were used when necessary, even carrier pigeons. No doubt Henri would have hoped to spend his time aboard a motorcycle as a dispatch rider. Unfortunately, there is no record to show whether he was, in fact, given this role.

On his return to Melbourne in 1919 Henri started up a new motorcycle business, but by 1920 the advertisements had stopped. In 1929, in Sydney, he married Isabel Henderson. Shortly afterwards he took over the management of a motor garage in Tumut but in 1933 was advised by his doctor to give up the work and he and Isabel returned to Melbourne where he continued to work as a motor mechanic. He died, as one of thousands, "due to war service", on November 22, 1948, at the Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital.

Sylvia Black, secretary, East Melbourne Historical Society

emhs.org.au and info@emhs.org.au

Correction

My article in the October edition of the *Inner City News* about the Old Men's Shelter in Powlett Reserve, East Melbourne referred to a similar building standing in Curtain Square, Carlton. This is wrong, the Curtain Square shelter was demolished in the 1990s. Thanks to those who pointed out the error, and sorry for the confusion. ●

October community morning tea

October morning tea was a well-attended gathering of 40 people who enjoyed an interesting talk by Terry Henderson on the state of the horse racing industry.

As principal of the syndication business OTI, Terry is a respected figure in Australia and around the world in horse racing. Terry spoke of the dynamics in the industry and the challenges facing the sport which has a huge footprint in the economy in terms of employment and financial turnover.

The Melbourne Spring Carnival currently under way is a time of the highest visibility for the industry in the wider community.

Other matters of interest to the community that were discussed included:

- 40kph speed limit signs come into operation in the suburb.
- There was a warning about the dangers of the slippery-when-wet white tiles on footpaths at intersections, with recent sightings of people having heavy falls.
- Residents were encouraged to view an interesting documentary *The Lost City of Melbourne*, which is currently screening in cinemas, including the Kino. The film shows historical archival images of now lost architectural treasures, while also highlighting buildings that have been saved.
- The Community Choir Project was still under way, with 45 local people having expressed an interest in taking part. We are still awaiting on news of funding.
- KereKere Café is offering to share produce from its garden in the Fitzroy Gardens with those interested in helping maintain, plan and replant garden beds; contact Panee at info@kerekere.org, or go to KereKere on Thursday mornings 9.30am to 10am.

Our next morning tea will be held on **November 11 at 10.30am** at the Hendersons, 67 Grey St.

Upcoming Community Events

Free Community Day in Powlett Reserve – Sunday, November 13, 11am to 2pm

There will be a sausage sizzle, drinks, Devonshire tea/cakes, tea/coffee, face painting, pet dress up parade, Zumba demonstration, the opportunity for free e-scooter trials and safety info, advice on e-bikes and bikes repair advice and help, the opportunity to donate surplus bikes for repair and regifting, books.

There will be a presence from the East Melbourne Group, the East Melbourne Neighbour Network, the East Melbourne Historical Society, the Community Police, the East Melbourne Library, and local arts and crafts.

East Melbourne Community Christmas Picnic – Saturday, December 17, 2pm to 5pm.

Come and build community spirit and celebrate the festive season by enjoying an afternoon of music, entertainment, social interaction and community connection.

The event will take place on the grounds of Bishopscourt and residents are encouraged to invite neighbours and friends and bring along your picnic rug, hamper, chairs, etc.

This event has been organised by East Melbourne Group and East Melbourne Neighbour Network.

Term Four health & wellbeing classes Classes are now well under way and include:

- Monday: Health Qigong; Chair Yoga; Gentle Yoga; Book Group.
- Tuesday: Walking Group; Pilates with Joh, Tai Chi.
- Thursday: Pilates with Alissia; Ukulele for Beginners.
- Friday: Gentle Exercise.

If you have ideas for any new activities for 2023, please contact Sue on **0402 356 533** or Ann-Maree on **0417 173 818** or email us at emnn3002@gmail.com ●

She gets things done

Marie Iafeta has a big smile and a humble disposition.

WORDS BY Carol Saffer

Both help in her role as Youth Service Manager at The Drum, the youth program at the Drummond St Services in Carlton.

Ms Iafeta manages the multiple programs delivered across the city, filling the critical task of organising funding along with giving a voice to youth who have not had one in the past.

Employed in the youth work sector since 2009, it is clear she has the qualifications and experience and an appropriate attitude of engagement with young members of the local society and neighbourhood.

Much of Ms Iafeta's work centres around families living in the Carlton housing estate.

"These are people living in an unloved building," she said. "It doesn't feel safe, and we need and want to help."

"Young people co-design all the programs delivered by The Drum; this promotes opportunities to learn how to navigate friendships and help deal with big personal feelings if and when they arise."

The vital aspect of co-designed projects is that kids take lead roles and achieve engagement in a youth-friendly space that may not be available at home. While Ms Iafeta has lived experience, she does not attempt to understand what it is like to live on a public housing estate.

"However, I understand the issues because I have shared the issues," she said. "I've had my time through different youth services and a number of complex issues that help me to empathise and become more intentional with my work."

"I know how to connect with someone who doesn't look like me."

Her team at The Drum works with

kids aged 12 to 25 and engages and encourages connection through word of mouth and social media.

All the exercises and programs have an element of problem-solving.

The process of learning those skills, e.g., cooking or making music, is covered by many steps that promote things such as how we connect with people from different cultures.

"This is not a cookie-cutter service," Ms Iafeta said. "I don't want to do intervention work; I want prevention work."

"It 100 per cent supports relationship building and promotes the word you are enough, and you are perfect the way you are."

Her colleague Hananiah, a practitioner at The Drum, describes her as someone with an "intent to make things happen; she gets things done."

"She is a problem solver of the highest degree," he said.

Ms Iafeta's zealous ability to go the total yards and not give up on someone she is helping is evident to the people she works with and for.



When things get tough, and she needs a release, she takes off her shows and walks barefoot on the nature strip at the front of the building

on Drummond St.

"I think I have worn a track in the lawn by now," she said with a smile. ●

CARLTON INC. TRADER PROFILE

La Mama offers the freedom to explore or fail

Betty Burstall founded La Mama Theatre after visiting New York, where she discovered the La MaMa Experimental Theatre Club, founded by Ellen Stewart, an American theatre director.

WORDS BY Carol Saffer

Ms Burstall said, "I got the idea for La Mama when we went to New York in the '60s. We were poor. It was impossible to go to the theatre. Even to see a film was expensive, but there were these places where you paid fifty cents for a cup of coffee and saw a performance ... or you put some money in a hat for the actors."

In July 1967, Ms Burstall saw her idea come to fruition in a pocket-sized building in Faraday St Carlton, previously used as a furniture and then a garment factory.

La Mama's outreach and engagement producer Myf Powell said it is an incubator for theatre.

"It can be a bit of potluck with the shows; however, you may be able to say one day, I saw that performance five years ago at La Mama and wow, look at them now," she said.

"Remember, Cate Blanchett started here straight from University."

The business was adversely affected during the past five years. There was the recent closure of the theatre due to COVID.

More importantly, there was the loss of funding from the Australia Council, which had

provided 75 per cent of its funding needs for 50 years.

And in 2018 the building was gutted by fire. "We had a lot of setbacks, but we are now back bigger and stronger," said Amber Hart, front of house and volunteer manager.

"Since we have rebuilt [and relaunched], people are keen to be here," Ms Hart said.

"We are selling out shows, and the audiences completely embrace La Mama."

La Mama is a not-for-profit organisation providing each artist with a small budget to assist their production.

They see the script and the program before deciding on accepting the production.

The theatre relies on some strong philanthropic supporters, and sponsorship from the City of Melbourne and Creative Victoria is now its largest source of funding.

"Performers are not coming to make big bucks; La Mama is a place that gives performers the freedom to explore or fail and a team willing to support you," Ms Hart said.

"It's about hearing those unique Australian stories and supporting them to grow in whatever way they need."

The theatre holds an exploration season each year when artists are given three nights free at reduced ticket prices to test out new show ideas.

"It feeds the Australian arts community with emerging and experimental drama," Ms Powell said.

"Even a first iteration show that doesn't work might be four iterations later a sell-out touring the world," she said.

One such production, *This is Eden* by Emily Goddard, after opening at exploration season, was nominated for Best Performer at the 2017 Green Room Awards and premiered at the Butter Factory Theatre in Albury-Wodonga.



▲ Myf Powell and Amber Hart.

Photographer Darren Gill.

It has since had two critically acclaimed, sold-out Melbourne seasons at Forty-five Downstairs and a highly successful Victorian tour in late 2019.

Around 40 per cent of the audience are locals.

Everyone is welcome, and complimentary tea and coffee at each performance, and no concession checking for ticket purchases.

"We offer subsidised tickets for those who can't afford them," Ms Powell said.

Locals are encouraged to take a punt on a new show and afterwards take a walk around the corner to Lygon St for a drink, dinner, or coffee.

In 2008, the Del Monaco family, who owned

the building, put it up for sale.

Supporters of the theatre raised the required amount to purchase the building in the name of the La Mama Theatre Trust by the 11th hour.

Having survived lockdowns, funding withdrawals, a devastating fire, a last-minute effort to purchase the building, and its 55th birthday this year, La Mama is still a vital, much-loved Carlton institution. ●

For more information:
lamama.com.au

PUBLIC HOUSING RESIDENTS' NETWORK

Is Homes Victoria about to declare insolvency?

I don't take much of what the Herald Sun says about anything to be honest. It is a muckraker of the first order. Sensationalism in reporting is its core mission.

One report, though, that appeared to be truthful was the *House of Cards* article published on October 23 written by reporter Shannon Deery. It drew on information in a ministerial briefing accessed through a Freedom of Information (FoI) request that has subsequently not had its content publicly challenged or corrected by the Victorian Government.

To the contrary, more detail was provided by a spokesperson to the *Herald Sun* supporting the view there is a crisis. Some quotes from the article follow:

"A ministerial briefing, released under FoI, shows the delivery of programs is at high risk because of Homes Victoria's dire financial position. Infrastructure maintenance, the capability to meet operational requirements, compliance and financial sustainability are also at risk."

"Despite a recent increase to its base funding, the agency continues to operate at an unsustainable loss and is being propped up with cash from the Andrews Government's signature Big Housing Build."

"A government spokeswoman said the core operations of Homes Victoria were largely funded by rental income derived from public housing

tenants. She said over a decade rental revenues and funding from the Commonwealth National Housing and Homelessness Agreement had declined in real terms. About 50 per cent of Homes Victoria's revenue comes from rents collected from tenants and 45 per cent from the Commonwealth's National Housing and Homelessness Agreement (NHHA) – which over the past 10 years, the Abbott-Turnbull-Morrison government failed to adequately fund".

The Save Public Housing Collective (facebook.com/savepublichousingcollective) has checked on the Commonwealth funds provided to Homes Victoria for various functions it should carry out. A link to the most recent report on how funds are allocated follows:



This report includes estimates for the 2021-22 and advises the Commonwealth's contribution to Homes Victoria was estimated to be \$426.43 million split 50-50 between housing and homelessness services.

There is no doubt that the federal government underfunded these services over the years of LNP governments but to blame this and public housing tenants' rents as being the cause of a financial crisis does not appear to have any foundation.

Full disclosure of Homes Victoria's financial position is needed before the

election on November 26. Housing Minister Pearson and Treasurer Pallas should not be allowed to avoid full transparency on the basis of an election.

Disclosure needs to start with rental income and how it is spent: supporting public housing, including maintenance, or on the Public Housing Renewal Program (PHRP) and now Big Housing Build (BHB) projects?

- How much is it costing Homes Victoria (HV) for staff and consultants working on PHRP and BHB projects and is public housing rental income being allocated to these expenses?
- What will be the impact of new housing stock being fully funded by but managed or owned by

This report includes estimates for the 2021-22 and advises the Commonwealth's contribution to Homes Victoria was estimated to be \$426.43 million split 50-50 between housing and homelessness services.



community housing providers on Homes Victoria revenue, compared to having it retained as publicly managed housing?

- What are the accumulated losses of rental income through public housing stock transfers to community housing organisations and how much are they being paid for ongoing management of that stock?
- How much has Treasury "clawed" back from Homes Victoria and its predecessor agency in recent years and what will it take this financial year and beyond?

Mainstream media loves talking about millions

Treasurer Chalmers' October Budget had no funds for public housing nor eradicating homelessness.

Instead, we have a promise of a new "Housing Accord" with industry superannuation funds and the private construction industry to deliver one million new affordable homes within five years, beginning in 2024.

Unions have welcomed the announcement with the ACTU saying they look forward to members making profits from this type of investment for their members' retirement incomes.

Around one million dwellings have been built during the past five years across the country, so it is unclear if this will continue in full over the same period or will an "accord" deliver on top of this with two million homes being built?

The idea of delivering actually affordable, secure housing to those in urgent need of it now and in growing numbers and making profits on what is built, frankly, does not stack up.



To deliver profits an enormous subsidy or grant program will have to be put in place by the federal government.



To deliver profits an enormous subsidy or grant program will have to be put in place by the federal government.

This is link to some other responses to the "accord" idea:



We can only wait to see what will be announced. ●



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CARLTON ROTARY



Rotarians do their bit to help limit impact of malaria



Malaria is a life-threatening disease caused by parasites that are transmitted to people through the bites of infected female Anopheles mosquitoes. It is preventable and curable.



WORDS BY *Ian Ada - President*

In 2020, there were an estimated 241 million cases of malaria and 627,000 deaths worldwide. Africa carries a disproportionately high share of the global malaria burden.

In 2020, the region was home to 95 per cent of malaria cases and 96 per cent of malaria deaths. Children under five accounted for about 80 per cent of all malaria deaths on the continent.

Controlling the activity of mosquitoes is a vital component of malaria control and elimination strategies as it is highly effective in preventing infection and reducing disease transmission. The two core interventions are insecticide-treated nets and indoor residual spraying.

Rotarians Against Malaria (RAM) was initiated by a Rotarian in New South Wales in the early 1990s who was concerned about the surge in malaria incidence after the discontinuation of DDT-based malaria control programs. The primary focus of RAM has been the distribution of insecticide-treated nets to vulnerable populations in Papua New Guinea, the Solomon Islands and more recently, Timor Leste.

RAM has raised more than \$1.6 million to eliminate malaria since 2003. It works in conjunction with the Ministry of Health authorities in each country and complements the work of other malaria organisations.

There are now RAM committees

in each of the 21 Rotary districts in Australia, which raise funds to support programs to control and eliminate malaria. The Rotary Club of Carlton has provided funds to the committee in our district for the past 15 to 20 years. In lieu of a gift to guest speakers at our meetings, the club also donates the value of an insecticide-treated net to the program on their behalf.

At our club meeting on October 11 Professor Geoff McFadden spoke about his latest research which has thrown up a surprising finding, opening the way to some novel approaches for studying and combating malaria.

His research has shown, quite unexpectedly, that plasmodium, the parasite responsible for malaria, is related to algae and contains a plastid – the chloroplast organelle that is responsible for photosynthesis in algae and higher plants.

Finding plastids in parasites of humans has rewritten their evolutionary history showing malaria parasites were once photosynthetic organisms (like algae or plants). They converted to parasitism hundreds of millions of years ago but kept their plastids, which are now non-photosynthetic.

Geoff's team has identified many new drug targets in the plastid of malaria parasites, vastly increasing the number of strategies for the development of much needed new anti-malarial drugs.

Next meeting

The Rotary Club of Carlton now has an evening meeting on the third Tuesday of each month at Naughtons Hotel, Royal Parade, Parkville commencing at 6.30pm.

If you would like to join us on November 15 and 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. ●



Ian Ada

PRESIDENT - ROTARY CLUB OF CARLTON
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CARLTON HISTORY

Carlton Football Club's early uniform

While most clubs in the Australian Football League (AFL) identify themselves with an animal or object (for example, the Swans, Bulldogs, Bombers) the Carlton Football Club identifies itself solely with a colour – the Blues.

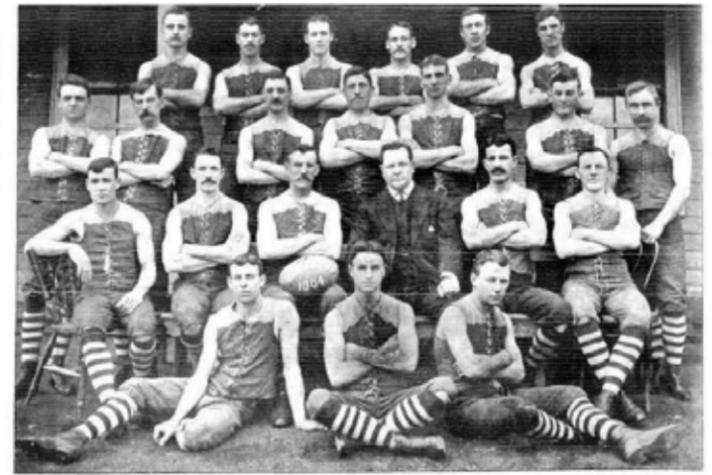
Perhaps no other team in the AFL has more invested in a colour than Carlton. The colour in question is a rich dark colour known as Oxford Blue. The name originates from the rowing competitions between Oxford and Cambridge Universities in the UK in the mid-19th century.

In order to distinguish themselves from one another, the two universities adopted different colours for their rowing and other sporting teams. Cambridge adopted a light blue and Oxford a dark blue.

The Carlton Football Club's theme song says: "We are the Navy Blues. We are the Old Dark Navy Blues". But it was not always so.

In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the Carlton uniform was not dark navy blue but a mid-blue with beige shoulders. The shoulders were made of chamois leather because it was more comfortable to wear than the canvas often used for the rest of the guernsey. Chamois is a type of porous leather, traditionally the skin of a type of European mountain goat, but today usually made from sheepskin.

The chamois leather shoulders were dyed or painted white, so the official colours were therefore mid-blue and white. But after repeated washing, the white dye or paint would



▲ The Carlton team, runners-up in the 1904 Grand Final, wearing the old uniform of mid blue with beige shoulders.
Photo: Bluseum.

wear off to reveal the beige chamois underneath, which meant that the colours of the Carlton Football Club appeared to be mid-blue and beige. Being of a stiff material, the guernseys were not pulled on over the head but were laced up down the front.

It was not until the early 20th century that the uniform was changed to the navy blue one that we are familiar with. A sports magazine in April 1907 reported that: "Owing to similarity in uniforms of several League teams, and the consequent difficulty of distinguishing one footballer from another in close play, Carlton will have a large 'C' worked on the front of their jerseys".

This was adopted by the Club in 1909, which at the same time changed from the mid-blue and beige to the dark blue guernsey with a white monogram on the front featuring a large letter "C".

It took some time for the change-over to be completed however, and for a number of years around 1910,

Carlton took to the field wearing a mixture of the old and new uniforms. But by the time of the First World War the change was complete. The shape and design of the monogram on the front however, continued to change and develop from an original that was quite elaborate to the simple clear style of today.

Even today the Carlton team does occasionally return to the use of a lighter blue in place of the navy blue. In 2011, for example, Carlton players wore a light blue guernsey with a thin navy-blue stripe down each side and the monogram in dark blue on the front.

Source: bluseum.org ●



Jeff Atkinson

PRESIDENT CARLTON COMMUNITY HISTORY GROUP
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CRITIC

Tapping into an inner strength

WORDS BY *Rhonda Dredge*

Painting under pressure means there is little time for self-criticism or complications.

Lucy Feketer just wanted to fill in the entire canvas in two hours.

She had just won the women's prize at the Victorian Artists' Society.

It was now time to demonstrate her painting skills in a performance in front of an audience of fellow artists.

The chairs were all lined up and Lucy got to work on a portrait.

She chose a limited palette of vermilion, titanium white, ivory black and yellow ochre.

First, she covered the canvas with raw umber then rubbed back the light areas. Then she mixed up two values, one for shadow, the other for skin tone, and applied them.

The palette she was using was invented by Anders Zorn, a Swedish painter of the 19th century.

The result is a sombre piece of work that brings out the shadowy nature of existence, in stark contrast to her usual style.

"I usually do illustration and it shows," Lucy said. She worked as a freelance Illustrator doing storyboards and concept illustrations for ad agencies. Later she illustrated a number of children's books and



undertook a variety of private commissions.

She's not an advocate of the psychological style of portrait painting that aims to being out personality factors. "For me it's all about getting a likeness."

Her new no-nonsense approach to painting has made her think about her style. "I think I was double handling. I did lots of layers."

A trick of the Zorn palette is that ivory black is cool rather than warm like mars black and can be used for mixing green.

The vermilion is also not quite as

dominating as a cadmium red that is often selected.

In terms of genre, the work has more of a social realist feel than the paintings in women's show at the VAS.

Lucy isn't sure what direction she will take for the next exhibition, *Artist of the Year* in November.

She's been invited to submit and is excited about her prospects.

Perhaps she is tapping into an inner strength in her new work that she didn't know she had.

Artist of the Year, Victorian Artists Society, November 11 to 28. ●

PARKVILLE ASSOCIATION

“Here we go again”

We were delighted that the City of Melbourne refused to grant a permit for the demolition and building of a dermatological clinic on the site at 35-39 Royal Parade Parkville. More than 150 locals submitted objections; however, the applicant has decided to appeal this matter at VCAT.

Naturally the Parkville community is very upset and will join the proceedings as an interested party at VCAT. While not a heritage-listed building the premises was built in 1923 with additions a couple of years later and has served as a boarding house and an educational facility, latterly as part of Trinity College. We will be setting up a fighting fund to join this action. If you are interested, please email me presidentparkvilleassociation@gmail.com

That leads me to an exciting event on November 4 being the Park Life symposium organised by the Australian Centre for Architectural

History, Urban and Cultural Heritage.

In 1972 South Parkville was declared the first historic area in Melbourne by the National Trust. To celebrate this there are many sessions including the Parkville Heritage Review, the *Birth of Australian Modernism in the Backyards of Parkville* presented by Emeritus Prof Jaynie Anderson (a local resident and friend of the Parkville Association) and many other sessions that will focus on our wonderful suburb.

Go to the website as members of the public may attend. Norah Killip will join me as a representative of Parkville, which is very fitting as she

is our local historian and knows more than anyone else about this great suburb! It is rather ironic South Parkville is celebrated by such an august group and at the same time we need to go to VCAT to save a special building!

During October, the City of Melbourne completed a traffic survey looking at origins of vehicles to understand the “rat running” that occurs through our streets and laneways. Sadly, with the banking up of traffic on Gatehouse St, impatient drivers speed through Parkville and endanger pedestrians. When the Westgate Tunnel opens more will flow through our area and the council is looking to see what can be done to manage the process.

Also, in October I attended two police meetings where scooters, traffic and crime in our area were focused on. A reminder to students particularly – do not leave your bikes on your front porches unlocked as they will disappear. There have also been car thefts surprisingly enough

when cars have not been locked!

There is action from the police on e-scooters and the council is working with the state government to issue clear regulations for their use. Lime and Neuron, which both partner with the council on the trial scheme, have been addressed regarding the use and parking of the scooters.

Interestingly enough the hirers of the scooters quite clearly are aware of the rules and regulations from both operators, they just need to follow them!

Nas Mohamud – our neighbourhood partner from the council – has advised that the Parkville Portal is now live on the council’s website. Visit it as there will be all sorts of news about the area.

Finally, we are thrilled to be holding the Parkville Association’s Party in the Park on November 20 in Ievers Reserve. This year we have Naughtons catering again and great entertainment including the Parkville Ensemble and University

High School’s Jazz Ensemble. The Children’s Auxiliary will provide cakes and Wimble Street will also have a stall. Last time there was great interest learning Auslan and they also will have a stall!

Our friends from the Vintage Sports Car Club who are based in South Parkville will have some great vehicles on display.

See you all on the 20th! ●



Rob Moore

PRESIDENT
PRESIDENTPARKVILLE
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MELBOURNE ZOO

Zoo brews up wildlife-friendly coffee opening



A brand-new way for coffee-loving Melburnians to help save wildlife has been launched at Melbourne Zoo.



Orangutans, monkeys, and tree kangaroos will directly benefit from the four varieties of shade-grown coffee that Zoos Victoria has created in partnership with Melbourne-based family-owned business Genovese Coffee.

Melburnians consume more than 22 million cups of coffee at home each week, however this can impact biodiversity through the clearing of forests.

Zoos Victoria CEO Dr Jenny Gray said shade-grown Coffee for Wildlife products supported farmers, protected forests and saved wildlife. The beans are sourced from partners in Ethiopia, Sumatra and Papua New Guinea who know the importance of wildlife conservation.

“Rainforests are rich in biodiversity – this is where you get all kinds of amazing animals living,” Dr Gray said. “That is why we have looked for farmers with the same ethic we have, the same ethic of protecting biodiversity into the future.”

Rather than rapidly growing coffee in the sun, which removes habitat where wildlife lives, shade-grown Coffee for Wildlife is grown beneath rainforest tree canopies.

While it takes longer for the coffee to ripen in the shade, this also produces more complex and delicious flavours and, importantly, preserves precious wildlife habitat.

Genovese Coffee managing director Adam Genovese said this shade-grown form of coffee production provided a livelihood to communities around the world.

“When grown in a genuinely sustainable way, coffee plantations can benefit the environment, support local communities and produce a great brew,” Mr Genovese said.

Dr Gray said everyone had a role to play in protecting the planet’s biodiversity – whether that’s through the coffee we consumed or any other product we purchased.

“What we can do with every purchase is think carefully about its impact. We have done some of the thinking for you through Coffee for Wildlife products. So, we have sourced coffee that is good for wildlife and good for you,” Dr Gray said.

The Zoo’s Ethiopian coffee is a chocolaty single origin



▲ Coffee for Wildlife. Photos: Zoos Victoria.

from the forests of Ethiopia, while protecting the home of vulnerable Vervet Monkeys. The Sumatran beans have a spice and herbal freshness and are sourced to protect Orangutan habitat.

The Papua New Guinean coffee has a honey sweetness with a hint of almond and helps protect species including the Matschie’s tree Kangaroo.

The Survival blend is a unique blend of all three single origin coffees that tastes like bergamot and blueberry with a light body and mild acidity.

Coffee for Wildlife products are packaged in certified at-home compostable bags, which are biodegradable along with the coffee grounds.

All coffee consumed at Melbourne Zoo and other Zoos Victoria properties is served in biodegradable cups, with the cups, coffee grounds and Coffee for Wildlife packaging processed in the Zoo’s industrial composter.

Coffee for Wildlife products can be purchased at Zoos Victoria shops, the online Zoos Victoria store and the Genovese website.

A new coffee brew is helping to protect the environment and wildlife worldwide. ●

BOOK REVIEW



A comforting tale set in Japan

WORDS BY Rhonda Dredge

The Readings Prize was announced on October 26 and already there’s a stand in the Carlton store devoted to the winner *Cold Enough For Snow* by Jessica Au.

Au, of Hong Kong descent, lives in Melbourne and the novel reads like her memoir.

A striking feature of the genre that she practices in this book is to delete identifying details.

Melbourne is called “a city” and the names of people and places in her life are replaced by the nominative case.

To put the prize into Au language: a studious writer has won a literary prize awarded each year by a discerning bookshop.

This distancing mechanism creates a poetic that is charmingly free-floating and suits the rather formal mood of the novel.

It also won a prize from the publishers against 1000 entries worldwide.

Cold Enough For Snow heralds its meditative style on page one with a sentence about the rain: “It left a fine layer of water on the ground, which was not asphalt, but a series of small, square tiles, if you cared enough to notice.”

The narrative deals with authenticity and the weight of society’s expectations on a mother and daughter travelling in Tokyo.

The daughter is an atmospheric narrator who goes to some trouble to select paths through the city to please her mum.

“I took us by a route along the canal, which I thought might be nice at that time of evening.”

Her mother has grown older and is not as enthusiastic about discovery as her daughter. Her favourite place is a small store in a passage where she can buy gifts for her grandchildren.

Au is an accomplished storyteller and *Snow* is no mere travelogue but a method for including tales that range in content from her sister’s search for love in Hong Kong, her own striving to be conscientious, and her partner’s pretensions.

All in all, the narrator’s strivings are moving. She wants to be honest about her own feelings but has too much respect for the customs of others to provoke.

When a diner in a café oversteps the mark, she acquiesces as she does to her partner’s taste in DVDs.

The issue is not about having the courage to be herself but in taking herself too seriously, according to her partner.

She is frugal with language and dreams of the day of being able to say more.

When her mum comforts her with curry and rice after a day’s wet bushwalking, no more words are needed.

Cold Enough For Snow, Jessica Au, Giramondo Publishing, 2022. ●

墨尔本大众公墓志愿者绿化小组

2021年9月，在王子山(Princes Hill)社区中心的赞助下，关心墨尔本大众公墓的当地人组成了公墓志愿者绿化小组。

Carol Saffer

社区中心与墨尔本大众公墓的管理者南都墓园信托基金会(SMCT)签署了一份谅解备忘录，志愿者小组首次正式两小时的工作计划于2021年11月的最后一个星期五实施。

志愿者小组最初在公墓运营经理John Wright的指导下，决定改善对访客影响最大的主要行走区域。8月26日星期五，这个小组在SMCT园艺业务负责人Helen Tuton的指导下开始工作。

志愿者小组的一名成员Liz Aird说，“我们都为此感到兴奋。”

“我们现在有了工作计划和植物清单。”

该小组利用非侵入性的本土植物物种来增强花园植被，并为关键区域的裸露土地带来新的植物生命。

在九月的工作劳动中，志愿者在一个较旧的公共墓地种植了木本草甸。

Tuton女士说：“木本草甸是适当的原生灌木混



合物，这些灌木能够形成茂密的树冠，抑制杂草生长，并为昆虫、鸟类和爬行动物提供色彩、活动和栖息地。”

她说：“木本草甸可以自我生长，耐旱且坚韧，只需最少的投入，可以带来积极的美学、环境和植被覆盖结果。”

志愿者小组组长卡尔顿居民David James说：“我看到了美丽的袋鼠草和鲜花在微风中飘扬。”

王子山社区中心的一位发言人说，据估计，今年该志愿者小组提供义务劳动多达200多个小时，并免费提供了数百株植物。



墨尔本候选人竞选演讲

在即将到来的维多利亚州选举中，代表墨尔本席位的四位女性候选人将于11月7日星期一晚上7点，在卡尔顿Palmerston街180号All Nations教堂举行的公共论坛上发表竞选演讲。

Carol Saffer

这次论坛由内城区联合教会正义联盟成员所组织，论坛由澳大利亚联合教会维多利亚/塔斯马尼亚分会的社会正义倡导者Mark Zirmsak博士主持。

本报作为这次论坛的先期报道者，联系采访了所有五位候选人，并提问道：“能否向选民说出两个你认为最重要的问题，以及如果你当选，将如何处理这些问题？”

来自维多利亚社会党的Colleen Bolger认为，对选民来说最重要的两个问题是气候变化和住房危机。

现任绿党议员Ellen Sandell说：“人们非常担心气候变化，特别是多发的自然灾害，以及我们的孩子将来面对的是什么样的世界。”

“市民告诉我，他们非常担心住房问题，租金上涨，年轻人感到几乎不可能买房，超过10万人在公共住房的等候名单上。”

理性党的Nicola Foxworthy说：“在我与墨尔本选民讨论中，突出强调的两个关键问题是：重建我们的卫生和心理健康系统，以及解决我们目前面临的住房危机。”



工党的Rebecca Thistleton说：“我想确保我们的体育俱乐部和社区团体有一名当地成员在政府内部努力游说新设施。”

“我每天都在外面挨家挨户敲门，听取意见，当地选民真正想要的是改变气候的行动和减轻电费账单的压力。如果工党连任，将恢复州电力委员会，促进可再生能源，降低价格，并在2035年前摆脱煤炭。”

自由党候选人George Palackalody没有回应。

新社区门户网站开通上线

墨尔本市政推出了东墨尔本、卡尔顿和帕克维尔(Parkville)在线社区门户网站，提供了一个专用网络空间，让人们了解当地的最新工程和活动。

David Schout

市政开通了10个新的“社区门户”网站，每个都覆盖本市不同的居住区域，希望成为一个一站式空间，为那些在当地生活、工作或学习的人提供所有相关的本地信息。

这包括开发项目的更新、如何预订场地或会议室、如何申请资金，重要的是如何对影响当地社区的事情发表意见。

值得注意的是，市议会为三个居住区域（以及所有其他七个区域）聘请了一名“合作伙伴”，作为该区域具体问题的主要联络人。

市政希望此举将有助于社区与市政议会的联系，分享他们对未来的想法。

市政承认，市内的不同区域(例如，东墨尔本和港区之间)存在巨大差异，并表示其新的“基于区域”的邻里方法将确保能够理解和应对独特的社区问题。

市政表示，这种模式确保了“社区参与的持续循环”，使得当地知识和优先事项转化为行动。

市长Sally Capp告诉本报：“我们知道每个社区都有不同的需求、机遇和挑战，所以我们很自豪能够为全市每个社区推出一个专用的社区门户网站。”

截至10月26日，所有10个社区门户网站都已上线。其余八个是：卡尔顿、港区、东墨尔本、北墨尔本、帕克维尔、南岸、South Yarra和西墨尔本。

欲了解更多信息，请访问：participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au/neighbourhoods



百年景观 修复开放

10月29日星期六，墨尔本皇家展览馆的穹顶长廊向公众开放。

Carol Saffer

穹顶长廊是1880年和1888年国际展览的一大亮点，为游客提供了观赏墨尔本天际线的机会。

皇家展览馆是第一座澳大利亚建筑被联合国教科文组织列入世界遗产名录。

联邦政府资助了穹顶长廊的保护和宣传项目，确保穹顶长廊修复

到19世纪的原样。

从2018年到2020年对穹顶长廊包括建筑外面的木甲板以及一个画廊展览空间进行了修复工程施工。

一位墨尔本博物馆发言人表示，除了展览馆举行活动以外，穹顶长廊将全年向游客开放。

每天可有四次每次最多30人的观光游客，观光门票在公告发布时至12月下旬已售罄。

维多利亚博物馆首席执行官兼总监Lynley Crosswell说：“很高兴我们现在可以欢迎游客来游览皇家展览馆的穹顶长廊，这个刚修复的



墨尔本最古老景点。”

“我们特别高兴能在春季开放，为游客提供盛开的卡尔顿花园



的壮丽景色，以及近100年来未曾体验过的墨尔本美景。”

皇家展览馆和其它一些享有盛

誉的建筑一起，开放穹顶观光游和屋顶观光游。

皇家展览馆穹顶长廊观光游从墨尔本博物馆门厅的一个集合点出发，然后前往地下室、夹层楼和下层长廊，轮椅可通过电梯到达。

要观光四层的穹顶长廊，游客必须攀登大约20级的台阶。

为了能获得在整个上层长廊漫步的兴奋体验，游客必须攀登额外的楼梯才能欣赏360度的全景。

上下层长廊都在室外，与自然

环境融合。欲了解更多信息，请访问：museums.victoria.com.au

What's On: November

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 Nov 30
 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



Monthly Social Nights November (FREE)
 On the first Monday of each month, YMCA Victoria is hosting Social Nights at the Carlton Baths.
 From 6pm to 9pm, in the Green Room, the night will involve food and good company.
Carlton Baths
 November 7, 2022
 6pm - 9pm

Lost Jobs: The Changing World of Work (FREE)
 Many jobs have vanished in Victoria over the years, while others have emerged, sometimes in completely new industries. The world of work is always changing.
 Until Jan 31
 Old Treasury Building
 20 Spring St, East Melbourne 3002

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

Business Directory

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 adam.bandt.mp@aph.gov.au

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 admin@dynamicpsychotherapy.com.au
 dynamicpsychotherapy.com.au
 33 Drummond St Carlton 3053

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 146 Peel Street
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