

# INNER CITY NEWS

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**Harmony Day is coming!**  
*Photo by Ajay Viswanath*

Carlton's heart will beat with the sights, sounds and smells of multicultural celebration this month with the celebration of Harmony Day at Carlton Primary School on Saturday, March 18 . *Full story on page 7.*

## Historic church unveils new crown spire, after a 40-year wait

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*  
HERITAGE

A Parkville church built in 1898 has been given a new lease on life with a new crown spire installed to replace the previous spire that was destroyed in a storm some 40 years ago.

The Melbourne Mar Thoma Church on Royal Pde has undergone repair works with the replacement crown spire – believed to be the only of its kind in Victoria and possibly Australia after stone was sourced from New Zealand – being a major addition and providing a striking view to the surrounding area.

The church community hails from the southern state of Kerala in India and are in full communion with the Anglican Church.

The present church was purchased by the Uniting

Church in March 2008, with about 340 families now being part of the church community.

The Mar Thoma Church's building convenor Thomas Joseph said the original crown lantern was "shattered into tiny pieces" after being struck by lightning in about 1982, with the upper part of the crown being removed.

"Those pieces were collected and were kept by the Uniting Church for a long time. I collected the pieces and kept them with us and handed them over to the stonemason," Mr Joseph said.

Over the years, the crown's remaining stone has deteriorated, with metal scaffolding used as a temporary support for the buttresses.

But the new spire, he said, had brought a sense of pride and joy to the community after works were completed in February.

*Continued on page 6.*

## Residents win at VCAT over restaurant that will be restricted to hotel guests

*East Melbourne residents are celebrating after the state's planning tribunal ruled in their favour to curtail the operations of a contentious residential hotel and restaurant proposal.*

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*  
PLANNING

The residents feared their neighbourhood character would be lost if the proposal to redevelop Magnolia Court, a former bed and breakfast venue, went ahead at 95-101 Powlett St.

The City of Melbourne approved plans for the planning application in April last year, which saw residents take their fight to the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) over a six-day hearing in October and November 2022.

In presenting its case, the East Melbourne Group (EMG) cited concerns about the venue catering for up to 88 patrons, as well as noise, lack of car parking, patron movement, rubbish, and general impacts of a commercial operation in a heritage street.

At the start of the hearing, the permit applicant Powlett St Land Company Pty Ltd, applied to amend the application by reducing the number of patrons within the restaurant to 48, including an outdoor capacity of 22 patrons on the ground floor and four patrons on the first floor.

VCAT senior member Laurie Hewet stated in his report that there was no objection to this amendment and therefore ordered a planning permit be granted on February 23.

But he stated, "On balance however, I have concluded that the opening

of the restaurant to patrons who are not guests of the residential hotel, even to the limited degree consequent on the permit applicant's suggested condition, is not consistent with the restaurant operating as an ancillary component of the residential hotel."

The order means no person is permitted to use the restaurant other than a hotel guest, which the EMG's planning convenor Greg Bisinella said would mitigate many amenity concerns for Powlett St to remain a quiet residential street.

"No late-night Uber pickups and drop offs. No boisterous football crowds milling outside the property at 11.30pm and significantly less traffic in and around the site," he said.

He said despite the City of Melbourne initially approving a 128-seat venue, and later an 88-seat restaurant respectively, the tribunal had seen "fit to significantly curtail the restaurant offering to meet the legal definition of an ancillary offering".

"We always support sensible, reasonable planning outcomes. What they've ended up with is a fairly reasonable planning outcome that we probably would've accepted from the get-go," Mr Bisinella said.

"The previous Magnolia Court boutique bed and breakfast was a fairly benign offering that didn't cause too much grief to anybody. Had they come back with something very similar we wouldn't have been in

*Continued on page 2.*

BUSINESS, PAGE 03

**A** *Lygon Local:* The jewel in D.O.C's crown

COMMUNITY, PAGE 05

**B** Senior Carlton residents share tales in new book

EDUCATION, PAGE 08

**C** Thousands of students gather for O-Week

INNER CITY LOCAL, PAGE 14

**D** Carlton local awarded Public Service Medal

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▲ *East Melbourne residents are pleased with their VCAT win.*

*Photo: Ajay Viswanath.*

# Residents win at VCAT over restaurant that will be restricted to hotel guests

Continued from page 1.

this position.”

In making his decision, Mr Hewet stated, “notwithstanding the limitations on non-guest access to the restaurant consequent on the permit applicant’s suggested condition, I am not persuaded that allowing non-guest access to the restaurant is consistent with the restaurant operating as an ancillary component of the residential hotel.”

"I have reached this conclusion primarily because a restaurant that is open to the public, even on a limited basis, can function as a separate use quite distinct from the residential hotel."

Magnolia Court has been vacant since becoming a casualty of the COVID-19 pandemic. The guesthouse changed hands after Primeland Group and Singaporean fund Baksh Capital

reportedly paid \$9 million for the site with the intention of renovating and refurbishing the building, which was originally built in 1861.

Under its \$4.5 million redevelopment plans, Primeland wants to rejuvenate the existing two-storey Victorian era building and increase the number of guest rooms from 26 to 37.

The residential hotel would operate 24-7, while its restaurant would operate from 8am to 11pm.

Primeland was contacted for comment. ●



Brendan Rees

JOURNALIST

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# Council trial making high-rise composting a reality

WORDS BY *Sean Car*  
SUSTAINABILITY

In an Australian-first, the City of Melbourne has introduced its Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) collection service in high-rise buildings through a 12-month pilot program.

Around 80 per cent of City of Melbourne residents live in high-rise apartments, making the service a crucial step forward in the council's sustainability goals.

For the first time, the service is available to residents of participating apartment buildings of six or more storeys, with two buildings – on Spring St in the CBD and Curzon St in West Melbourne – having already begun trialling the service.

The other four buildings, of the six selected through an expression of interest process to take part in the 12-month pilot, are yet to be announced and will begin their trials soon.

The service gives access to on-site dehydrators, used to reduce the volume of waste by up to 80 per cent, and to process organic waste into nutrient-rich organic fertiliser, which is then converted into high-quality compost for use in parks and gardens across the municipality. Residents will also be able to use a portion of the fertiliser in their own gardens.

The high-rise pilot is being delivered in partnership with Enrich360 and Eco Guardians, as part of the council's Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy to divert 90 per cent of waste from landfill by 2030.

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# Lygon Local

## The jewel in D.O.C's crown

“  
When D.O.C Pizza and Mozzarella Bar opened on Drummond St more than 10 years ago, there were few restaurants in Melbourne that gathered the same level of hype.

WORDS BY Jack Hayes  
BUSINESS

There were lines 40 to 50 metres up Faraday St just to get a table, reservations were only offered for large bookings, and the place was bursting at the seams – that was just the way they liked it.

On any given night 700 to 800 hungry customers would walk through their doors.

What was bringing these hordes of locals, visitors, foodies, and lovers of culture from all parts of Melbourne, and Australia, to this little pocket of Carlton? It was one of, if not the, best slices of pizza, in the city.

Fast forward to today, and almost nothing has changed ... besides the introduction of a sophisticated booking system.

There is still the same undying dedication to sourcing the best produce Italy has to offer, from DOP (Denominazione d' Origine Protetta) tomatoes to the country's finest, cloud-like mozzarella.

There is still an authentically Italian approach to hospitality; it's loud, it's busy and it welcomes you in with open arms.

Above all else, there is still an incredible slice of pizza to be had.

Giulio Falleti, manager of D.O.C Pizza and Mozzarella Bar, told *Inner City News* that while the days of queues down the street may be gone, the same philosophy remained.

“D.O.C has always been a true Italian restaurant,” he said. “A place where Italians come to get their pizza, have a drink and enjoy themselves.”

“We have to keep our consistency. We work with suppliers both in Italy and Australia to bring their products and give something new to the customer.”

“We are forever changing the menu. We are adding four new pizzas, which include a four-cheese pizza, boscaiola, which is a pizza from the north, and even a meaty pizza, almost a meat lovers, but a bit more refined.”

While the new additions are sure to freshen up the menu, it is almost impossible to venture past their signature: the DOC.

It is simplicity at its finest. Four to five ingredients only: San Marzano tomato sauce, mozzarella, fresh DOP buffalo mozzarella and basil on top, with a drizzle of olive oil.



▲ D.O.C venue manager Gisell Gallo, chef Gabriele Torre and venue manager Giulio Falleti.

According to chef Gabriele Torre, just about the only thing that doesn't come from his homeland is a few specific meats and cheeses, which, because of laws introduced to manage customs concerns, cannot be imported from overseas.

“We are always finding new producers to get the very best we can,” Mr Torre said. “Last Italian summer I went and met the largest importer of flour in the country.”

“We understand we can't always sell our regulars the same pizza, they want something new, they want something different, and we see that as an exciting challenge.”●

For more information:  
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# SLEEK NEW ELK SPACE A PLACE TO TALK ABOUT SLOW FASHION



Elk has cemented itself as part of the Lygon Street community

**Slow-fashion label Elk knew it was time to ease out at the seams when the perfect shopfront came up in Carlton.**

In the search for a fifth retail space for her sustainable fashion brand Elk, co-founder Marnie Goding had a crystal-clear wish list.

At the top of the list was a shopfront that stands out, somewhere that people are not in a hurry. Somewhere customers can take their time to soak up the Elk ambience, and its slow-fashion ethos.

All roads pointed to a prominent corner shop on Lygon Street, as a counterpoint to the tiny, busy jewel of a boutique on Little Collins in the city.

‘The type of people we’re looking to bring into the store is different to our small city shop, where it’s workers and people in town for the day or an event.’

‘A retail space like Lygon Street allows us to have a conversation about how each product is made, where it’s made, what it’s made from, who makes it. It gives us the chance to discuss conscious consumerism,’ Marnie said.

‘That opportunity only really exists in a retail space. Someone can come in to talk about more than just an item. It’s more experiential, rather than transactional,’ Marnie said.

There were other factors that ticked the boxes when location scouts from our Shopfront Activation Program mentioned the Lygon Street shopfront to Elk.

‘Our strategy is to look for destination stores that are part of a community hub.’

‘You need a clear shopfront that stands out so people can find you easily from the footpath and passing traffic,’ Marnie said.

‘It’s got a nice big glass shopfront, it’s in a good spot at an intersection with well-established businesses around us,’ Marnie said. At first they took an initial lease as a holiday pop-up. Following the runaway success of the pop-up over summer, Elk has since parlayed a short-term lease into a five-year extension, so the brand can truly become part of the community.

The short-term opportunity came about through the \$2.6 million

Shopfront Activation Program, a joint initiative between the City of Melbourne and Victorian Government to transform empty shopfronts into creative spaces, bespoke displays and pop-up shops.

‘Lygon Street has such a vibrant retail scene. We are nestled in among well-established brands, but still prominent enough to stand out from the footpath and the road,’ Marnie said.

Other drawcards included the iconic Cinema Nova, just a short stroll away for patrons passing time before the movie, and a whole neighbourhood of surrounding eateries.

Knowing they already had readymade customers in the area also helped seal the deal.

‘We know from our online sales that we have a strong customer base in Carlton, so the local market is absolutely as important as the visitors we hope to attract,’ Marnie said.

‘Lygon Street gives an opportunity for an independent, family-owned business to grow, to find a new audience and strengthen an already great business.’

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# Break the Binaries exhibition blends art, science and identity together

WORDS BY *Kaylah-Joelle Baker*  
ARTS & CULTURE

Science Gallery at the University of Melbourne launched its third exhibition, *Break the Binaries*, on February 18, with works centred around sharing people’s personal journeys with identity.

Developed in discussions with young people and an academic advisory group, Science Gallery director Dr Ryan Jefferies said the topic of identity in terms of gender, race and sexuality stood out as a theme of interest.

“We work closely with young adults from a range of backgrounds to discuss potential topics for exhibitions, and gender and identity continue to be themes of personal and universal relevance,” he said.

“This is a bold and compelling exploration of the subject, where a spectrum of perspectives and personal histories are shared, and social norms and binary frameworks about gender, identity and cultural representation are challenged.”

Drawing on an exhibition that was held at Science Gallery London, called *GENDERS: Shaping and Breaking the Binary*, Science Gallery Melbourne has created a playful, non-traditional gallery space with around 12 works from local and international artists.

An open call for submissions also resulted in a wide range of multidisciplinary works, from video to sound, sculpture, and multimedia, all of which explore a diverse and unique range of topics and ideas close to each creator’s heart.

Upon entering the exhibition, attendees are first met with George Goodnow and Simona Castricum’s bent steel sculpture work *Wayfinding*, which has fake street signs with words running along the entire structure.

The artists described their work as an exploration of the ideas of safety, possibility, and visibility from a queer trans perspective.

The gallery space then opens up to a burst of colour and activity.

Ash Hem’s *UN(COMFY)* encourages people to reach a place of being “comfortable with the discomfort that comes with being uncomfortable”.



The work invites people to sit comfortably on pillows as they listen to an audio mix of anonymous voices sharing their personal experiences of being confused with identity.

Other works focus entirely on multimedia, such as Zeth Cameron’s work *Queervoice 101* – an interactive video installation that touches on elements of voice training, and challenges understanding of how voices may change in different settings and what this means.

Overlooking the entire gallery, from each and every corner, are six large-scale “superheroes”, illustrated by Yuri, Torres Strait and South Sea Islander Dylan Mooney.

The heroes don’t replicate what is seen through many movies, but instead reimagine them as characters who get strength and pride from who they are and their culture.

Exhibition curator Tilly Boleyn said *Break the Binaries* aimed to present a playful, welcoming and kaleidoscopic view of the chosen topic.

“Through the personal perspectives shared and interdisciplinary creative practice grounded in research, all of these works are intended to create connections and conversation,” she said.

*Break the Binaries* will be at the Science Gallery at the University of Melbourne until June 17, and entry is free. ●

**For more information:**  
[melbourne.sciencegallery.com](http://melbourne.sciencegallery.com)



▲ Residents with their newly published book, from left, Mary Monagle, Graham Barber, Frances Rowland, Jo O’Neil, and Edith Bavin.  
Photo: Ajay Viswanath.

# Senior residents of Carlton share life tales in new book

“From camel races in Alice Springs to life in the Swinging Sixties, a group of senior Carlton residents have published a new book, sharing tales of a period gone by.”

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*  
COMMUNITY

The book, *Changing Times, Changing Lives: Recollections from Twelve of the Lucky Generation*, is a collection of short memoirs written by residents aged over 75 living in a vertical retirement village.

They spent many hours over three years creating the book, which was overseen by a steering committee of several residents, most notably by the book’s editors Edith Bavin and Jo O’Neil, encouraged by Bill Gammage and with input from historian Lucas Jordan.

Published by Bad Apple Press, which specialises in telling Australian stories, the book contains a range of individual stories with reflections on how wider Australian and global events have shaped the lives of the writers.

Like one resident noted, “after all, these older people have lived in a time of world war, of major emigration from Europe to Australia, and

of global movements such as environmental activism and feminism”.

Many of the writers have strong connections to inner-city Melbourne, such as Graham Barber and his wife Helen, who have lived in Carlton for 40 years, and Mary Monagle, who worked as a nurse at St Vincent’s Hospital for many years.

While their love affair of Carlton is explored in the book, residents also share interesting tales from how one met a “White Russian” boyfriend while on a skiing trip in Australia, to how one individual looked after sheep but also liked to surf, to how another loved frequenting Fremantle cafes in the mid-1970s.

The memoirs are to be found in the only such collection of retirement village life histories in Australia, since much of the recent attention on older Australians has been focused on aged care, as the historian Marilyn Lake noted in her foreword to the book.

Other stories in the book include Marelyn Wintour-Coghlan’s impressive international career as a physiologist, along with 43 years at the University of Melbourne, and strong links to the Howard Florey Institute.

Another resident, Rosemary Mangiamele, tells of how she came to live in Carlton in the 1970s before marrying the Italian-born filmmaker Giorgio Mangiamele. Her early love of art, music and performance would stay with her throughout her work as an occupational therapist, and lead to her current practice as an artist.

The book was launched on January 29 and is available now at Avenue Bookstores and Readings Carlton.

The authors encourage everyone to pick up a copy, as Lucas Jordan wrote in his afterword, “this is a book rich in the voices of curious, energetic and determined people, in which readers will find many gems”. ●



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# Getting involved in decision-making

WORDS BY Rhonda Dredge  
EVENTS

As the inner city returns to normal after the lockdown, residents are still letting off steam and feeling under pressure.

Greens activist Apsara Sabaratnam is a good conversationalist and is offering her services to communities still affected.

She practices a consensual form of politics that works towards agreement.

If you get into a long-form conversation with Apsara, you'll pick up the way she deals with anxieties.

Let's say that you're worried about a delayed reaction to the lockdown and the transition back.

"You mean a longitudinal behavioural change. We won't know what that is yet," Apsara said. "Some changes will be subconscious."

She's good at labelling fears and concerns rather than people so that we become more confident when talking about society.

Apsara is secretary of the Multicultural Greens and lives opposite the Carlton Gardens where they'll be hosting a picnic on March 18 from 10.30am to 1.30pm.

Already 90 people are coming from different community groups and food is being provided.

The aim is to get people talking. "There's an appetite for one-to-one connection," she said.

Even a picnic can be fraught. They chose the Carlton Gardens over Flagstaff this year because in December 2021, trams weren't running, there were anti-lockdown protests and people wearing masks were often abused.

Long-form conversations are one of the Greens' ways of developing policy. "Some of the best solutions come from people in the community," she said.

"Consensual decision-making has never been so important," she said. "There's hard power and soft. You can have a majority in parliament like the ALP in Western Australia but that can be a problem."

"If you push legislation through then that can be used against you at the next election."

In consensual decision-making, "you come up with an idea and other people can expand your ideas and bring in a perspective you don't have."

Multicultural Greens picnic, Carlton Gardens, March 18 from 10.30am to 1.30pm. ●

# Historic church unveils new crown spire, after a 40-year wait

Continued from page 1.

"We can proudly say that the current structure is stronger and better than the old structure and it's the carbon copy of the original crown lantern."

The church worked with heritage and conservation teams from RBA Architects and Conservation Consultants based in St Kilda to bring the project to fruition after planning began in 2018.

One of the project's team members, Phillippa Hall, said materials were sourced from the Oamaru quarry in New Zealand where the original limestone came from.

"We've all been really pleased. It's been such a long process, and everyone worked together really well," she told *Inner City News*.

"I think everyone's priority was just for the success of the project and to get the crown and the tower rebuilt. As far as we can tell, we think it's the only one in Australia. There's a few in the UK but we think this is the only type of crown in Australia."

Ms Hall added it was a "huge step" alone for the Mar Thoma Church to have their own church in Australia, "and so, for them now to be able to reinstate the kind of defining feature

(that is the crown) is something they're really, really proud of".

The project was fully funded by the church after two funding requests to Heritage Victoria were knocked back.

Mr Joseph said following four years of "tug of war" with the City of Melbourne and Heritage Victoria, they were granted a permit in 2018 to build the amenities on the side of the church with a condition to restore the crown, "which was in fact an eye sore and a potential danger to the community".

In addition to the new crown, the church is also excited to replace the old cross at the top of the church in early March, which "will be copied from the original cross which we still have".

At the time of purchasing the building, repair works were conducted to replace carpets, update the altar, and install chandeliers to match the age of the church.

The church first opened as a College Church with its first minister, the Reverend Alexander Yule, choosing to erect the spire based on that of the King's College Chapel (1498-1509) at Aberdeen University in Scotland where Rev. Yule was a former student.

●



▲ Mar Thoma Church's building convenor Thomas Joseph celebrates the installation of a new crown spire with heritage and conservation team members Phillippa Hall and Deirdre Heffernan.

# Brutal decision awaits for "significant" Carlton car park

WORDS BY Brendan Rees  
HERITAGE

Public opinion continues to be divided over whether a car park in Carlton, known for its 1970s Brutalist architecture, should be heritage listed.

Cardigan House car park, on the corner of Grattan and Cardigan streets, is included in the City of Melbourne's Carlton Heritage Review due to its aesthetic significance, which was first considered by the Future Melbourne Committee on November 16, 2021.

Brutalist influences are associated with the bold use of off-form concrete, encapsulating the similarly rugged articulation of face brickwork (in a range of colours), steel framing, tinted glazing, and exposed services.

However, some residents are against the car park being heritage protected, including the Carlton Residents' Association, which made a submission stating, "it is not valued by the community", encouraged car pollution, and would restrict future development of more sustainable land uses, while also noting it had a "terrible street interface".

However, David Wagner, president of the Victorian chapter of the Australian Institute of Architects, said it was "entirely appropriate" to protect the car park.

"While car parks are commonly made of fabricated concrete, this one has actually been sculptured and has been designed with a sort of



▲ Carlton resident Katie Roberts-Hull says preserving Cardigan House car park would be a setback for the community

textured façade," he said.

"The architects were Mockridge, Stahle and Mitchell, who did quite a few public buildings including churches, and so they understood the importance of detailing buildings well."

"It's a lovely building. You see the sort of tensile tautness across it, looking at the facade, but also the trees work beautifully against it too."

"We don't have a vast number of Brutalist buildings in the city ... and I think for all of

those reasons, it's important to, to retain and to look after."

Mr Wagner added the building was serving a "very useful function of being a car park".

"It's adjacent to the university, it's adjacent to the hospital, and it's adjacent to the local street commercial precinct. So, there is a demand for car parking there – performing a very useful function."

Carlton resident Katie Roberts-Hull, who made a submission to the panel, said, "We have far too many heritage protections in Carlton, and this carpark is one of the worst examples of the heritage problem".

"Heritage protections would severely limit what can be done with the building, and I think it would be terrible if this meant we have to have a huge carpark at that site forever."

"I love Carlton for its walkability, parks, cafes, and shops. We should allow many more people to live in this suburb, and I believe what I love about Carlton would only improve if we allowed more change."

The Carlton Heritage Review, which recommended 24 places including the car park be protected by heritage overlay, has been publicly exhibited and considered by an independent planning panel, with the City of Melbourne currently considering the panel's findings.

"The review is scheduled to return to the Future Melbourne Committee for further discussion in 2023. If adopted, it will be sent to the Minister for Planning for final approval," the council said. ●

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# A day of harmonious celebration in Carlton

WORDS BY *Jack Hayes*  
EVENTS

Carlton's heart will beat with the sights, sounds and smells of multicultural celebration this March with the celebration of Harmony Day at Carlton Primary School.

Running from 11am to 3pm on Saturday, March 18, Harmony Day will see more than 10 organisations within the Carlton Community Network join forces in a day filled with food, performances and family-friendly activities.

The Lord Mayor Sally Capp and federal member for Melbourne Adam Bandt will be in attendance for the event, which for 2023, is organised with the help of 24 University of Melbourne Executive Master of Arts students.

Carlton Neighborhood Learning Centre community development manager and 10-year Harmony Day veteran, Elle Morell, told *Inner City News* the event has been integral in "bringing together a diverse community to celebrate the fact that we can live together without experiencing things like racism and disadvantage".

"There's probably about 15 different activities on the day, a lot of them designed for children, ranging from face painting to a petting zoo," Ms Morell said.

"It's an opportunity to connect with different services and programs in the local area as well as to enjoy food made by a diverse range of cooks that offer their time and delicious treats."

"I think it's really important for the residents living at the public housing estate in particular, because it's often the only festival or event they'll attend in the year, and it's not only a chance to showcase their culture, but it's also to meet with people in their community."

While Harmony Day will feature a number of performances throughout the event, Ms Morell, a self-confessed fanatic, has earmarked headliner Afrodelle and spoken word poet Maxine Beneba Clarke as acts you just cannot miss.

University of Melbourne student and member of the Harmony Day event organising team,

Jia Fu, said despite the challenges in piecing together an event of this scale, the experience that had been gained was invaluable.

"As students, we haven't been exposed to this kind of practical organisation," she said. "But with the help of our community and our lecturer Anna [Kosovac] we have been able, with more than 30 different people, to turn this event into reality."

"Everyone in the Carlton Community Network is very excited for the day, and we, as students, are looking forward to seeing how the event unfolds."

Harmony Day is one of the many events to be delivered through the City of Melbourne's Neighbourhood Funding Agreement.

The Lord Mayor told *Inner City News* it was "heart-warming to see local organisations come together at Carlton Primary School to mark Harmony Day, a representation of this vibrant, varied and caring pocket of Melbourne."

"Carlton is home to the second-largest population of our municipality, with 63 per cent of residents born overseas, and 57 per cent speak a language other than English at home," the Lord Mayor said.

"Carlton is one of our most diverse suburbs, well-known for its Italian cafes and restaurants, its artisan stores, Victorian heritage buildings, and leafy parks and gardens."

"Strengthening relationships between people from all backgrounds – and by celebrating respect and inclusivity in our communities – ensures everyone enjoys a sense of belonging."

Harmony Day will run from 11am to 3pm, Saturday, March 18, at Carlton Primary School, 150 Palmerston St, Carlton. ●



**For more information:**  
[facebook.com/carltonharmonycelebration](https://facebook.com/carltonharmonycelebration)

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# Thousands of students gather for O-Week festivities

*Students from all over the globe were seen to be basking in the excitement of Melbourne Orientation Week ahead of semester one starting on February 27.*

WORDS BY *Kaylah-Joelle Baker*  
EDUCATION

Located in the heart of The University of Melbourne's Parkville Campus is the new Student Precinct, where the start of the school year kicked off with a SummerFest. Presented by the University of Melbourne Student Union, the four-day block day party was a major drawcard of O-Week, with tens of thousands of students seen to be smiling, chatting, and celebrating.

Many international students, who make up 40 per cent of the university's total student population, were also seen to be making the most of the new school year abroad.

Designed as an opportunity to make new friends and understand uni life, the SummerFest had everything from music performances to a free barbecue, fun workshops, a sporting carnival, stalls for different student society clubs, lawn parties, and campus tours.



“Our students were able to participate in more than 230 events this week, and our Discover UniMelb program will keep the festival atmosphere alive and help students feel at home on campus throughout the semester,” University of Melbourne Provost Professor Nicola Phillips said. ●



## International Student Q&A

*Get to know two international students at O-Week – Gloria Yang and Frankie Fu ...*

**When did you arrive in Melbourne?**  
**G:** I've been in Melbourne for one year but over the summer holiday went back to China, and just arrived back here one week ago.  
**F:** I have been here for half a year.

**What course are you studying?**  
**G:** I am studying Finance and am actually a Monash University Student but came with my friend.  
**F:** I am studying Education to be a principal. I study here at The University of Melbourne.

**What are some cultural differences you have observed?**  
**G:** I think Australia is more free than my hometown, and everybody can show their personality here and feel the university culture, and for overseas students it's a good chance for us to study here.  
**F:** I really like Melbourne because everyone is smiling. In some Asian countries people don't like smiling, that's the biggest difference I've noticed.

**What do you like to do in Melbourne?**  
**G:** The weather here is very good, and Melbourne is near the sea and I love the sea. I always see the sun and go to the beach, which is very good for me.  
**F:** I really like Melbourne and I like travelling in some national parks, I like going hiking. ●



# Council welcomes international students back

*The City of Melbourne has prepared a multitude of activities to help make Melbourne a welcoming experience for international students.*

Councillors voted unanimously in favour of a series of initiatives at the Future Melbourne Committee meeting on Tuesday, February 21, as part of the council's 2023 priorities to make Melbourne the world's best city for students.

Speaking to the motion, Lord Mayor Sally Capp addressed international students in the room, asking that as the council “implements these activities, [for students to] please participate and give feedback, so we can keep lifting the bar”.

At the end of the 2022 academic year, there were more than 106,400 international student visa holders in Australia studying at Victorian tertiary institutions; up 50 per cent compared to the same time in 2021 and now is at 70 per cent of pre-COVID visa numbers.

In December, the council endorsed a strategic framework to retain Melbourne's place as Australia's best student city and to position Melbourne as the world's leading city for student experience in the global QS Best Student Cities Ranking.

Its “Making Melbourne the world's best city for student experience – 2023 priorities” report, considered by councillors in February, underpins this ambition, focusing on the four key areas of advocacy, student wellbeing, employability and marketing.

“Prior to the pandemic, more than 150,000 international students lived in Victoria, contributing \$13.7 billion a year to the state's economy. We're



determined to get back to those levels by making Melbourne the world's best city for student experience,” Lord Mayor Sally Capp said.

“International students are part of the lifeblood of Melbourne, adding significantly to our city's cultural vibrancy and atmosphere.”

“We know their strong return will also have significant economic benefits – creating jobs and driving up spending at city businesses.”

The list of activities includes:

- The *My Melbourne* program – free tickets to major events.
- The Lord Mayor's Student Welcome at the Queen Victoria Market's Summer Night Market.
- A speed-friendship session as part of Melbourne Conversations.
- O-Week stalls where councillors met with students at RMIT and The University of Melbourne.
- International Student Summit
- Employment seminars and health and wellbeing sessions at The Couch International Student Centre.
- Councillors Philip Le Liu and Davydd Griffiths welcomed students at the airport upon arrival.

Easing the transition back to university for international students is of high importance this year with 2023 marking a 33 per cent increase on the student numbers seen last year.

More than 104,000 international students have chosen Victoria for their studies this year, with students from India making up the largest cohort, followed by students from China.

Parkville and Carlton saw a rise in activity in February, with students racing to experience the fun that comes with O-Week, at RMIT, Monash University and The University of Melbourne.

Within its 2023 O-Week, Monash University's Parkville campus, which is home to Monash's Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, welcomed a record number of students, with the highly anticipated return of international students adding to its success.

To assist with international students coming to study at the campus, Monash specifically dedicated Friday, February 24 to international students and those who are studying pharmacy on exchange or transfer from the Monash Malaysia campus. ●



# Carlton Primary brings food from around the world to your doorstep

WORDS BY *Kaylah-Joelle Baker*  
EVENTS

Carlton Primary School and Slow Food Melbourne recently partnered up to launch the first official Carlton Street Eats market on Thursday, February 16.

The market, which will take place weekly at the school between 5pm and 9pm each Thursday throughout autumn, is part of the City of Melbourne's Connected Community Grants program after receiving \$14,505 in funding.

Successful program applicants were announced last year and Slow Food Melbourne was one of around 70 not-for-profit grant recipients.

Commended for its idea to work with Carlton Primary School to launch a multicultural food market, Slow Food Melbourne hopes the market will assist local businesses and residents in Carlton.

Slow Food Melbourne president Alison Peake said the organisation was "excited" to "bring the very best in street food to Carlton".

"We're passionate about providing a safe, welcoming and inclusive space for Melbourne foodies to flex their skills," Ms Peake said.

"Bring a picnic rug and get ready to join us every Thursday night to wine, dine and mingle."

While enjoying good company, food trucks and other local culinary purveyors will be offering everything from bao buns to wood fired pizza, gelati, borek, tacos, squeezed juices, churros, gozleme, French pastries, seafood, coffee, local beers and wines.

Describing it as a "stellar initiative", Lord Mayor Sally Capp said the council was "proud to be able to support Carlton Street Eats" as they launched "their first ever season of foodie fun".

"Activations like these represent the city's diverse culture and uphold Melbourne as the culinary capital of Australia," Cr Capp said.

Carlton Street Eats will run every Thursday during autumn, from 5pm to 9pm, and can be found at Carlton Primary School, on the corner of Palmerston and Rathdowne streets in Carlton. ●



# Melbourne Museum partners with First Nations creatives

EVENTS

Melbourne Museum has partnered with Mob in Fashion and PayPal Melbourne Fashion Festival to elevate First Nations designers in the fashion industry.

From Friday, March 3 to Saturday, March 11, Mob in Fashion's *Future/History* exclusive exhibition will be held at the Carlton-based Museum, with collections created by First Nations artists Lillardia Briggs-Houston, Delvene Cockatoo-Collins and Cassie Leatham.

Continue reading: [innercitynews.com.au](http://innercitynews.com.au) ●

For more information:  
[melbournefashionfestival.com.au](http://melbournefashionfestival.com.au)



# Psychologist launches book to shine a light on complex trauma

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*  
HEALTH

A Carlton-based clinical and forensic psychologist has published her first book, providing a comprehensive look at complex trauma and abuse.

In writing her book, titled *Reclaim: understanding complex trauma and those who abuse*, Dr Ahona Guha recognises the enormous impact of trauma and how there is a "very basic understanding of what these forms of abuse look like, how they impact survivors, and the many ways in which systems collude to protect perpetrators and punish victims".

"As a psychologist, I noticed that while the concept of trauma has become embedded in public conversations about mental health, our understanding of relational/complex traumas (i.e. chronic harms done to people in relationships) remains poor," she said.

"Our conversations about trauma and violence are beset by polarities and angry discourse, exaggeration, minimisation, and hypocrisy."

Through her role, Dr Guha works with victims of abuse and trauma, and clients with a range of other difficulties, such as anxiety, depression, perfectionism, burn-out, and relationship problems.

She has also worked with those who perpetrate harm; stalkers, sex offenders, arsonists, family violence offenders, homicidal ideation, and people who are generally violent.

Dr Guha's book, published by Scribe Publications and released in March, explores complex trauma, while also recognising the nature of the difficulties that people experience and live with.

As a survivor with lived experience of complex trauma, Dr Guha noted that she "wrote the book my younger, traumatised self would have wanted to read".

"Helping people keep themselves and others safe is an important overarching goal I hold in my work; and this book was designed to align with this remit," she said.

"Without real understanding of the impacts of complex trauma, and the nature of those who abuse and harm — we are fated to remain stuck in our interventions and will continue to make the same mistakes." ●

# One little thing can go wrong

WORDS BY *Rhonda Dredge*  
ARTS & CULTURE

The rough and tumble of homelessness is at the heart of a new play to be staged at La Mama in March.

Actor and playwright Sally McKenzie has taken the plight of women over 55 to heart.

She's a woman over 55 herself and is, perhaps, asking the "what if" question.

What if things had gone wrong in her own life? She'd studied acting alongside Mel Gibson at NIDA from 1975 to 1977.

"Acting is precarious and I've never considered I'd be homeless. However, that is a recurring theme during the play," Ms McKenzie said.

"The women in the play never thought they'd be homeless, but one thing led to another."

Her one-woman show *Way* explores the issues through the eyes of a documentary filmmaker who's trying to get funding from the national broadcaster.

She uses the doco-maker to meet and share the experiences of the women she is filming; Julie who lives on the streets, Maysie who sleeps in her car, Lily of no fixed address, and Zahra who resides in a women's refuge.

It's not easy to get investment because "the subject isn't sexy though and even worse the film has an 'arty' treatment."

Ms McKenzie said there had been a documentary on the ABC about the topic but it was bought as a finished product.

She became interested in writing a show after playing a homeless woman living in a car for an advertisement.

"I became interested initially because as an actor I gave my time to an organisation called Orange Laundry," she said. "They provide mobile units of washing machines and dryers for homeless people to do their laundry."



*Way* promises to be a brave account as Ms McKenzie throws herself into the part of Lynne, the doco-maker.

She was a documentary maker herself. *The Acting Class of 1977* documents her time at NIDA and includes Mel Gibson, Judy Davis, Steve Bisley and Debra Lawrance.

"There were only 15 of us. Three very intense years," she said. Her doco was screened on the ABC "but they didn't invest, they bought it as an acquisition."

Lynne wants to get up-front funding because in the tradition of truth-seekers, she "is determined to expose the reality that this is the fastest growing demographic of homeless people in Australia."

"Lynne is not making pity porn, she doesn't want to manipulate the audience, she wants to agitate towards awareness and change."

*Way*, La Mama Courthouse, March 22 – April 2. ●

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Your City of Melbourne community update

# BEYOND THE BOOKSHELF: SEVEN WAYS OUR LIBRARIES TRANSFORM LIVES



A modern, multi-purpose space at Library at The Dock

**Our libraries are places full of joy and creativity, where the future is now.**

Local libraries have evolved in many ways over recent years.

Demand for books remains high, and use of digital resources like ebooks, audiobooks, films, music and games surged during lockdowns. But this is just the tip of the iceberg.

Our library offerings can't be contained by walls or websites. They pop up across the central city and hit the road to visit people in their neighbourhoods



Here are seven special ways to engage with our library services:

1. Look out for our Mel-van mobile library visiting public housing, community hubs and festivals near you with books, workshops and wi-fi in a suitcase. We also bring our 'Books and Biscuits' program to older people, with curated pre-loved books and discussions about short stories, poems, essays and articles.
2. Find pathways out of homelessness thanks to library social worker Erin McKeegan. She helps people in need access the support services they need amid the welcoming, non-clinical library environment.

**HOMELESSNESS ZINE**

Pick up a copy of the *Need to Know* zine – made by people with lived experience of sleeping rough – from our libraries and community hubs.

3. Watch the new Munro Library take shape in close consultation with Traditional Owners and Aboriginal artists. This epic library will be located opposite the iconic Queen Victoria Market.
4. Use state-of-the-art creative technology for free in our makerspaces. Devotees have designed games, 3D-printed lizard skeletons for museum exhibits and prototyped groundbreaking medical devices.
5. Share your love of reading, practice French and learn how to do your tax at online and in-person events. Our book clubs, conversations clubs and life-skills workshops build community and counter isolation.
6. Borrow technology kits to make your life easier, cheaper and less wasteful. We have microphones, guitar pedals, robotics equipment, laptops and accessibility tools like the C-Pen Reader, which reads text out loud.



7. Co-work, run meetings, tinker on a creative project, shape-up your startup or just make a cuppa at Micro-Labs, a vibrant, flexible space on Bourke Street. Drop by to enjoy a curated library collection, mini makerspace, kitchenette, movable furniture, pop-up shop and cosy courtyard.

Our permanent and pop-up library locations include the central city, East Melbourne, Carlton, North Melbourne, Docklands and Southbank. Head to our website to view the locations and browse catalogues and events.

For more information, visit [melbourne.vic.gov.au/libraries](https://melbourne.vic.gov.au/libraries)

**LOVE FOR THE MEL-VAN**



'It's magic. It means a lot to people. Books and Biscuits is an incredibly stimulating activity that opens up people's minds to new ideas, great chats, and digressions into other fantastic conversations. It's very meaningful and we create real connections through the group interaction and topics.'

Irene, South Yarra Senior Citizens Centre

'The Mel-van brings us books in our language that we can't find anywhere else. They bring games and painting and help us with digital technology like our phones and the internet. The library is very important and we feel very close to the library. We've never had a library visit us every week before.'

Stella, North Melbourne Language and Learning Centre



IN BRIEF

HELP PLAN OUR URBAN FOREST

Help us plan our urban forest for the wellbeing of our community and future generations.

Join us at one of our upcoming community workshops and share your thoughts on the trees in your neighbourhood.

Where: East Melbourne Library  
When: Saturday 11 March 1.30 – 5.30pm

For more information and to register your interest visit [participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au/urban-forest](https://participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au/urban-forest)

SCRUBBING THE CITY

Did you know that the City of Melbourne carried out more cleaning in 2022 than ever before, removing the equivalent of nearly eight MCGs of graffiti in the past year?

Council’s Rapid Response Clean Team removed a record 150,000m2 of graffiti across Melbourne in 2022 – a 121 per cent increase on the previous 12 months.

More than 87,000m2 of graffiti was proactively cleaned, and another 63,000m2 was removed following reports from the public.

Council has also stepped up its efforts to remove dumped rubbish across the municipality, collecting more than 4,500 tonnes in the past 12 months – and an additional 100 tonnes of discarded mattresses.

CITY ECONOMY SNAPSHOT

Do you run a business in the city? Harness Melbourne’s new rhythm with the latest city data to boost your business.

The Melbourne Economy Snapshot is a new free seasonal activity guide for businesses that reveals where people spend their time and money in our city.

Our first edition shows a record \$1.1 billion was spent across the city in December. Friday and Saturday are now our busiest days, weekday spending is as strong as pre-pandemic and our night-time economy continues to flourish.

To access the Melbourne Economy Snapshot, visit [melbourne.vic.gov.au/business](https://melbourne.vic.gov.au/business)

STAY CONNECTED

Be first to know about what’s happening in your neighbourhood – from amazing events to new community facilities – with our City of Melbourne newsletter. Sign up today at [melbourne.vic.gov.au/subscribe](https://melbourne.vic.gov.au/subscribe) to get the latest news straight to your inbox.

REPORT IT ONLINE

From graffiti to abandoned vehicles, you can report amenity issues online, around the clock. Get in touch from your smartphone when it suits you and we’ll get on the case. Find out more at [melbourne.vic.gov.au/contactus](https://melbourne.vic.gov.au/contactus)



More family-friendly hours mean more time to enjoy Moomba



There’s more to love about Moomba this March with five days of free, family fun and entertainment.

The banks of the Yarra River – Birrarung will be buzzing with Moomba magic from Thursday 9 to Monday 13 March.

There are loads of fun, free activities to keep the whole family entertained – from epic skate park competitions and water sports to face-painting, crafts, dance workshops, Design-a-Float, kids’ yoga and loads more.

So whether you’re a dare devil bursting for a ride fix, a food-truck-loving-foodie, or looking to get your dance groove on to some awesome beats, Moomba has something for everyone.

Enjoy event favourites such as the beloved Birdman Rally on Sunday 12 March, where courageous competitors don inventive homemade flying devices to hurtle themselves over the Yarra River – Birrarung for a good cause.

Don’t miss the iconic Moomba Parade on Monday 13 March, with five new floats and puppets joining the fun alongside Moomba Monarchs Rob Mills and Rhonda Burchmore, and more than 1,800 performers from cultural groups, dance troupes, marching bands and more.

And to cap off a big day at Moomba, relax by the Yarra River – Birrarung

as nightly fireworks light up the Melbourne skyline, as well as nightly feature films on the Moomba big screen.

Other highlights of the program include:

- The Moomba Masters water sports competition, showcasing elite Australian and international athletes
- Rides and games for thrill-seekers of all ages at the Moomba Carnival
- More than 60 performers and entertainers, from acrobats to dancers, musicians, actors, roving performers, and more
- Interactive activities and play zones, with crafts, face painting, workshops and a Bluey Live experience.
- Exhilarating scooting, skating and riding across a bustling Moomba Skate Park Program.
- Food and drinks galore, with more than 25 food truck offerings featuring cuisines from around the world.

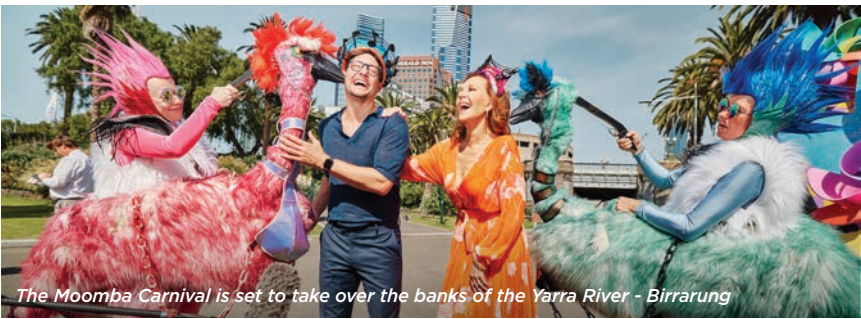


Don't miss the colourful Moomba Parade

Moomba is Australia’s largest free community festival and is proudly owned and delivered by the City of Melbourne.

It is an accessible and certified carbon-neutral event.

For the full Moomba program, or to purchase a Ride Pass for Moomba Carnival, visit [moomba.melbourne.vic.gov.au](https://moomba.melbourne.vic.gov.au)



The Moomba Carnival is set to take over the banks of the Yarra River - Birrarung

KEEP IN TOUCH

To stay connected with all the latest news from the City of Melbourne, follow us on social media and subscribe to *Melbourne News* at [news.melbourne.vic.gov.au](https://news.melbourne.vic.gov.au)

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# Australia Day Awards

## Advocate for female researchers honoured

*East Melbourne resident Mary-Jane Gething, a professor emerita of biochemistry and molecular biology at The University of Melbourne, said she was surprised and proud to have received an Australia Day award.*

WORDS BY *Kaylah-Joelle Baker*

Prof. Gething was honoured with an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) award for her “distinguished service to biochemistry and molecular biology, to tertiary education, and to the arts”.

While humbled to be acknowledged, she said it did come with some “embarrassment” as she questioned, “why me?”.



“I belong to the Lyceum Club and have met so many remarkable women there, any one of whom would deserve an honour as much as or more than I do,” Prof. Gething said.

Prof. Gething has led a distinguished career in the field of biochemistry and molecular biology and has a passion for the performing and visual arts.

“I enjoyed a very interesting and fulfilling career in scientific research, but the performing and visual arts were always important in my life, although, lacking the talent, never as a practitioner,” she said.

As the first female head of her department at The University of Melbourne and a dedicated researcher, Prof. Gething has continued to champion and advocate for young female researchers working in the biomedical sciences.

Prof. Gething’s research has also allowed the opportunity to support performers in the arts through The Joseph Sambrook Opera Scholarship, which she co-founded with her late husband after contacting the Melba Opera Trust.

“An important outcome of my research, and that of my late husband and scientific collaborator Joseph Sambrook, was a patent

for improvement of a drug used to treat heart attacks and stroke by dissolving blood clots,” Prof. Gething said.

“The income we received from licensing the patent to biotech companies allowed Joe and me, and now our daughter Honor and me, to contribute financially to a number of causes close to our hearts.”

“Thus, we have been able to support early career scientists and young opera singers to flourish personally and professionally at a challenging time in the development of their burgeoning careers.”

Prof. Gething and Prof. Sambrook also founded the Gething-Sambrook Family Foundation, which in 2019 made possible the establishment of the MJ Gething Equity Award at The University of Melbourne’s School of Biomedical Sciences.

Among other notable achievements, in the mid-1970s Prof. Gething helped establish the London Rape Crisis Centre, a first for Great Britain, and more recently has supported Launch Housing’s Education Pathways Program which benefits children whose education has been significantly disrupted because of family and domestic violence. ●



## Empowering women in sport

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*

Harnessing the power of sport is something East Melbourne resident Sue Crow has used to make a difference to the lives of others.

Her contribution to managing various sports is extensive, with highlights including overseeing the establishment of a Women’s National Cricket League, being part of the establishment of the Melbourne Vixens Netball team, with its members winning the ANZ Championship in their second year.

Now, she has been honoured with a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) as part of this year’s Australia Day Honours List for her significant service to sport administration.

Ms Crow said she was lost for words when she received the news of the award but was equally honoured and humbled.

“Complete surprise and excitement,” she said, adding, “I wondered who may have nominated me – it is an honour that I thought ‘other people’ got”.

Ms Crow was the head of community at Melbourne City Football Club from 2010 to 2021 and has been a member of Football Australia’s Women’s Football Council since its formation.

Under her leadership, she fondly recalled sending groups of young leaders from Melbourne City’s community programs to Manchester City Football Club to train with other young leaders from around the world and “watching them grow and develop so that they can provide strong leadership through football in their own communities”.

She was also involved in running a City Sisters program for unemployed women to assist them in gaining employment and giving them self-confidence and fitness through football, while additionally setting up homework clubs in disadvantaged communities.

*Continue reading: [innercitynews.com.au](http://innercitynews.com.au) ●*

## Lead epilepsy researcher honoured by prestigious award

*An unwavering commitment to improving the lives of people with epilepsy and other neurological conditions has earned a well-respected researcher an Australia Day honour.*

WORDS BY *Kaylah-Joelle Baker*

Professor Mark Cook, a Parkville resident, and a director of neurology and chair of medicine at St Vincent’s Hospital Melbourne, was appointed an Officer in the General Division of the Order of Australia (AO).

The award, which was part of the Australia Day Honours List, recognised his “distinguished service to neurological medicine and research through contributions to the treatment of epilepsy”.

“Neurology is such an interesting specialty, so large and complex with so much being discovered,” Prof. Cook explained.

“Many new medications have become available over the years, but still about one-third of people with epilepsy aren’t controlled on the treatments we have, and surgery is suitable only for a relatively small number of people.”

“I became very interested in seizure prediction as the unpredictability of events is a major component of the disability caused by epilepsy, and new ways to treat seizures, such as brain stimulation and delivery of drugs directly to the brain.”

When told of his prestigious award, Prof. Cook said he was overwhelmed but added it was “such a great honour for me and all the people I work with”.

“I guess the first thing that went through my mind was what a great tribute it was to everyone who has been involved in the work that I do, over so many years.”

During his more than 30-year career, Prof. Cook, who is also a researcher at the Aikenhead Centre for Medical Discovery (ACMD) in East Melbourne (the first bioengineering facility of its kind in Australia) said much of



his work involved close collaboration with engineers, and through research at the University for Melbourne and St Vincent’s, as well as the Bionics Institute, which had led to the development of an implantable device for monitoring epilepsy.

He said it was anticipated this breakthrough would help control seizures better “through more accurate measurement of the activity of the brain and its response to treatment, as well as ultimately providing prediction of seizures”.

“Seeing the brain activity recordings we were making from our first implants were definitely the most exciting moments of my career.”

Prof. Cook said the condition was of special interest to him as his dad had been diagnosed with epilepsy as an adult.

“I came to understand just how disabling the condition was. My early interest was how we could use new MRI scan technologies to make successful surgery available to more people, and I was able to establish an epilepsy surgery service at St Vincent’s Hospital to do this,” he said.

While passionate about outcomes, he conceded “none of this would have been possible without the support of my family and friends, together with so many wonderful colleagues, and I could never thank them enough”. ●



## Passionate educator delighted by award

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*

A Parkville woman who has devoted nearly half a century of her working life to environmental education has been appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (OAM).

Annette Gough, a professor emerita in the School of Education at RMIT University, said she was passionate about teacher education because “a good teacher can make such a difference to a student’s learning, or not – they can open up horizons for students and encourage their passions”.

When told of her prestigious award, which was part of this year’s Australia Day Honours List, that recognised her service to tertiary and environmental education, she said she was honoured and humbled.

“I am delighted to be a woman being recognised with an award, and to see the field I have worked in for the past nearly 50 years – environmental education – being seen as worthy of recognition,” she said.

Though it was one that took her by surprise, she said, admitting that when she was first notified of the award by email, she had “trouble believing it”.

“It was a huge surprise. I never expected to be recognised by such an honour. And then I wondered who had nominated me and if I could not tell anyone before it was announced on January 26! I also wished my parents were still alive as they would have been so proud of me.”

But she added, “Can I say that I just wish it was not an Australia Day award. As long-time recogniser of today as Invasion Day, I stand in solidarity with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to honour their survival in the face of over two hundred years of colonisation.”

*Continue reading: [innercitynews.com.au](http://innercitynews.com.au) ●*



BUSINESS

# No. 1 Fertility is in the business of making little “miracles” every day

*Driven by a love of family and a commitment to help others achieve their dream of pregnancy, the Melbourne-based boutique fertility clinic has stepped away from the traditional “clinical” surrounds towards a plush, comforting retreat akin to a day spa.*



Surrounded by state-of-the-art technology and science, and led by Dr Lynn Burmeister, who has worked in obstetrics and fertility for more than 20 years, No. 1 Fertility provides a holistic service and strives to give the best patient care and fertility treatment at an affordable price.

The clinic offers low-cost egg freezing, IVF services including a donor and surrogacy program, and in-house ancillary services such as acupuncture.

Dr Burmeister, who has treated tens of thousands of women, said pre-conception health was paramount to the best chances of success, so No. 1 Fertility put a strong emphasis on the combination of wellness, science and a holistic approach to help patients achieve a healthy pregnancy.

“If you’re trying to fall pregnant, or you’re having difficulty conceiving, there are a number of things both men and women can do to improve your chances of success,” Dr Burmeister said.

“I look at the whole person and the whole picture. I take a detailed history of their diet and exercise routines and make sure these aren’t reasons as to why they are not conceiving.

“I’m a firm believer that if we work on overall

health first – and we have a healthy egg and healthy sperm – we are going to have the best chance of a successful pregnancy.”

Dr Burmeister said the maternal age had changed during the past 40 years with more women becoming mothers later in life.

“Women are born with a finite number of eggs, usually between one and two million. By puberty, they have around 400,000 eggs and by 30, there’s 100,000 to 150,000 eggs in reserve. By 35, that number is around 80,000.

“At the age of 40 there is only a four per cent chance of conceiving naturally.

“We understand this and the pressures on women with the ‘so-called’ ticking of their biological clocks so offer affordable egg freezing options to empower them to make decisions about their fertility.”

No.1 Fertility has clinics in East Melbourne and Melbourne’s CBD. ●

**For more information:**  
**1800 861 177**

# Pet’s Corner



## Brown-eyed boy

“One-year-old brown Cavoodle Louie has a peaceful and loving character. Two seconds of eye-to-eye gaze across the street are enough for him to jump on you with tongue happily out and tail wagging.



WORDS BY Violet Li

“He’s cheeky. He’s nice and very friendly. He loves people,” owner Daniel said.

Daniel said Louie always wanted to keep the ball and play with it if you gave him one; there was never any retrieval when it came to his favourite toy.

“He also finds that if he has a bowl or

something, other dogs will chase it. And he loves being chased,” he said.

Louie is said to be protective of his family. Every time someone passes by their house, he will bark non-stop.

Louie’s best friend is a white Cavoodle and when *Inner City News* met him in February, he was waiting to meet a new friend for the first time – a nine-year-old white Shih Tzu.

And, after several sniffings, we’re happy to report that they struck up an instant friendship! ●

MELBOURNE ZOO

# Kangaroos chill out in new bush habitat

“As any Melburnian can attest, there is much delight in a cool change, and the kangaroos at Melbourne Zoo appear to agree.



“The lucky mob of eight Kangaroo Island kangaroos, including two joeys in the pouch, have been busy exploring their new bush habitat, which features a fully landscaped garden with a wallow, an ephemeral creek, new shelters and 1600 sqm of new turf.

While the macropods love to nibble on the grass, it is not only a food source. It also provides a cool space on hotter days.

Melbourne Zoo Australian Bush Keeper Adam Lee said the upgraded facilities would enrich the lives of the kangaroos.

“The recycled water irrigation system will make sure the grass stays lush and cool, and it’s much closer to the natural habitat that these animals enjoy in the wild,” Mr Lee said.

“The grass also forms a natural part of their diet, so it’s important. But they also enjoy stripping the bark off the trees and eating leaves.”

“Kangaroo Island kangaroos are the puppy dogs of the species; they are very relaxed. Zoo visitors will be able to see them hopping about or chilling out on the new turf.”

Kangaroo Island kangaroos are a sub species of the Western Grey kangaroo and are common across Kangaroo Island in South Australia.

Visitors to Melbourne Zoo can see the new kangaroo habitat along the Zoo’s Australia Bush trail.

Melbourne Zoo visitors are reminded that all tickets must be pre-booked online at [zoo.org.au](http://zoo.org.au).

Zoos Victoria Members no longer need to book but are required to scan their membership card for entry. ●

**For more information:**  
**[zoo.org.au/melbourne](http://zoo.org.au/melbourne)**

# Carlton Street Eats

## World Food Market

STARTING FEBRUARY 16<sup>th</sup>

Carlton Primary School,  
Corner Rathdowne & Palmerston streets  
**5PM TO 9PM**

*Every Thursday*

**Eat In or Take Away International Food**

Dumplings	Indian	Mexican
Pizza	Asian	Sushi
Paella	Coffee	Columbian
Sri Lankan	French pastries	BBQ

February 16, 23 // March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 // April 6, 13, 20, 27

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# Inner City Local

## Passionate Carlton resident awarded Public Service Medal

*For long-term Carlton resident, Kate Rattigan, the opportunity to work in the education sector is not only a privilege, but also a chance to contribute to society and make people's lives better.*



WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*

“There aren’t many jobs more important than being a teacher and through my team’s specialist services, we have tried to support great public education by having the right processes, systems and assurance in place,” she said.

In recognition of her outstanding commitment to public education in Victoria for more than 20 years, Ms Rattigan was awarded a Public Service Medal (PSM) as part of this year’s Australia Day Honours list.

The award acknowledged her “outstanding public service to leadership and the delivery of improved products and services in the education sector”.

The PSM recognises outstanding service by employees of the Australian Government and state, territory, and local government employees.

It’s an honour Ms Rattigan said she never expected but was “extremely honoured and earnestly grateful”.

“It was not something I had ever imagined, given the significance of the contributions to society of the other recipients,” she said.



“I was even embarrassed considering the dedicated and talented team of people I work with, who are the proper recipients of this award. Then I thought about the opportunity it presents to inspire young women into leadership and public service, including my school-age daughters who were thrilled when they heard the news.”

Ms Rattigan added the award was extra meaningful in that she had followed in the footsteps of her late grandfather Alf Rattigan, who was made an Officer of the Order of the British Empire in January 1960 and appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia for his contributions to public service in 1982.

According to a statement issued by the Governor-General’s office, which announced the awards, “Ms Rattigan’s influence will have a lasting impact on the way legal services, operational policy and other supports for school leaders are managed in the State education sector”.

It also noted she has led significant reforms at the state and school levels to improve student outcomes, as well as support the health and wellbeing of principals across the state.

Ms Rattigan’s career highlights include creating a centre of excellence for legal services for Victorian government schools in 2012, as well as being part of a large-scale integrity reform program in the Department of Education from 2016.

And in 2020, she supported her staff to create “a digital, accessible, one-stop-shop policy advisory library for all Victorian government school leaders so that they can find the operational compliance information they need to keep thriving”.

In terms of her connection to Carlton, she said she still “felt lucky to be part of a tight-knit community” after having grown up in the area and attending Rathdowne Street Primary School (now Carlton Gardens) and University High School for a couple of years.

“After all these years, I still get my books from Readings, meet friends for pasta at Tiamo and eat gelato in Lygon St, and it’s extra lovely when my daughters and I bump into their grandparents at Brunetti’s!” she said.

“One of the things I love most about living here is being able to walk to work through the beautiful Carlton Gardens. I couldn’t think of a better way to start the day.” ●

STATE MP (UPPER HOUSE)

## Addressing our housing crisis

*In my inaugural speech to the Victorian Parliament in December last year, I spoke about what I believe is my duty as a millennial MP to do what I can to assist my peers to achieve the great Australian dream of home ownership.*

WORDS BY *Evan Mulholland*  
LIBERAL MP FOR NORTHERN METROPOLITAN



As I said, “I believe it is immoral that large sections of our inner cities, flush with good transport, schools, health care and other infrastructure, remain almost flat, with obsolete overlays denying young Victorians a chance to buy their first home where they want to live. If my party wants to remain relevant to young people, we must at every opportunity reject this short-sighted and unfair approach and champion home ownership.”

This leads me to question the bizarre recommendation from the independent Planning Panels Victoria report into the City of Melbourne’s Carlton Heritage Review, which said there was “significant justification” into applying a heritage overlay to the “brutalist” style carpark on the corner of Grattan and Cardigan streets in Carlton.

There is the saying that one man’s trash is another man’s treasure. But why we would want to heritage list a museum to parked cars is beyond me. Yet we have significant architecture experts lining up to opine on is more like a seven-storey pile of concrete.

While some in the political class might not want to admit it, we have a housing crisis.

This is not to say that significant sites and buildings should not be heritage listed. But it’s about striking the right balance, which I don’t believe has occurred in the case of the City of Melbourne Heritage Review.

Defenders of heritage listings and overlays

will often argue that listing does not affect development if the facade is maintained. Yet VCAT has straight up rejected a proposal to build a nine-storey apartment tower next to the heritage-listed 204-208 Albert St, in an area of East Melbourne which is already surrounded by similar apartments.

While some might think they’re on the side of the angels and fighting a holy war against evil property developers, in large part all they end up doing is sending my generation packing to growth areas where education, healthcare, amenities and infrastructure are already a decade behind in growth.

I’m all for residents having their say about what they believe to be inappropriate development, and I’m not about to go into bat for all developers. Some deserve the poor reputation they cop. But we need to understand that it’s not developers that are moving into these homes and apartments, it’s the next generation, and migrants, looking for a slice of the great Australian dream.

Let’s not pull the ladder up behind us. Instead, we should helpfully drop it down so the next generation of Australians can secure a home where they want to live. ●

STATE MP (LOWER HOUSE)

## In memory of Angus Collins, we need to protect cyclists and prevent further tragedy

*The tragic death of Angus Collins, who was killed in February by a truck while he was riding his bike in West Melbourne, has shaken our community. To family and friends of Angus, I’d like to extend my deepest condolences.*



Angus was killed by a truck turning left into the path of cyclists on the corner of Dock Link and Footscray roads – an area dominated by West Gate toll road construction.

A huge concrete pillar blocks trucks and cyclists from being able to see each other, and they both get a green light at the same time, sending them on a collision course. It’s an absolutely disastrous design.

The state government and West Gate Tunnel Authority were warned about this intersection by community members numerous times, but nothing was done.

What makes this death even more tragic is that in 2021, the coroner handed down a report into a similar incident which resulted in the death of a young woman, Arzu Karakoc, who was killed by a truck riding her bike in the western suburbs.

The coroner’s recommendations included changing lights to ensure cyclists and heavy vehicles weren’t in conflict, providing alternative safe bike lanes during construction projects, and fitting trucks with protective barriers. If these recommendations were followed, Angus would likely still be with us today. But they weren’t.

At this particular intersection, some quick, sensible changes could make it a lot safer, such as making sure vehicles have a red arrow when cyclists get a green light, so they aren’t on a collision course with one another.

In response to this tragedy, the West Gate Tunnel Authority promised to put in more signage and send traffic controllers to the

intersection. Yet when I went down there at peak hour, the traffic controllers were nowhere to be seen, and many commuters told me they’re either absent or not willing to do anything to assist at the intersection.

I’ve contacted the Ministers and authorities responsible and raised this matter in Parliament. I’m calling on the Victorian Government to urgently fix this intersection to ensure no more senseless deaths occur, and to look more broadly at making our streets safer, especially for those who ride or walk.

With this path closing soon due to the West Gate toll road works, we’ll also need to make sure the alternative cycle path – which I’m told will be Dynon Rd – is made safe. But I know that paths right across this area of the city are unsafe, so we need a broader review and for the government to make safety on our roads a priority. ●



*Ellen Sandell*  
STATE MP FOR MELBOURNE  
OFFICE@ELLENSANDELL.COM



# The Victorian Government supports private market rate rents

*The Big Housing Build absorbed the original Public Housing Renewal Program (PHRP), which included up to 11 public housing estates.*

The PHRP's original plan was move residents out with threats of eviction if relocations were not accepted – demolition; redevelopment by community housing organisation and private developer partnerships, with around 30 per cent of new dwellings being retained for community housing management and 70 per cent for private sale to investors and homeowners.

This plan was an extraordinary failure, with less than half of the estates receiving bids from such partnerships at Abbotsford St, North Melbourne; Walker St, Northcote; Oakover Rd, South Preston; and Gronn Place, Brunswick West. Those that started up are running late on final completion dates that will be four years after tenants were relocated.

Other estates like Dunlop Ave, Ascot Vale

and Tarakan St, Heidelberg West have seen Homes Victoria fund the full demolition and redevelopment costs. Bardia/Bell streets estate at Heidelberg West was demolished but no construction has started.

Following this failure, the model was changed to a redevelopment mix of community (aka social) housing; so-called affordable rent, and full market rent dwellings. This is model being pursued at the Barak Beacon estate in Port Melbourne. See below:



To ensure investors get a guaranteed return for their investments, full and 90 per cent local market rents will be charged for the larger proportion of the new dwellings, with tenants having no recourse to challenge rent increases as local market rents go up.

The 10 per cent discount was originally 20 per cent but was halved by retiring Minister Richard Wynne early last year. Labor was defeated in

his lower house seat of Richmond last year – a good measure of his legacy as both housing and planning minister.

Calling this an affordable housing program is a travesty in public policy.

The Big Housing Build is embedding market rents as the benchmark for rent setting in its projects.

**Selecting tenants for the so-called affordable housing**

The prospective tenants will not have to be on the Victorian Housing Register.

They will be chosen through a ballot process, which literally means that if you are accepted as an eligible applicant household you will go into a pool where a random selection process will prevail. There is no indication if urgency in needing stable accommodation will feature in eligibility assessment, nor if the essential worker classifications – nurses, fire and rescue workers, childcare workers, teachers – will be part of the assessment criteria. Drawing on its infinite wisdom Homes Victoria has selected a company called Snug to run the ballots. A *Guardian Australia* investigation found that for other landlords:

“Snug’s opaque and potentially discriminatory use of applicants’ personal data to ‘score’ them against properties, giving them a higher score when they offered to pay more rent. Privacy experts, academics and renters’ advocates expressed concern after analysis of Snug’s patent application suggested its intention was to collect wide-ranging information from users, including friend lists, social media networks and ratings on third-party platforms such as Airbnb and Uber, and to develop a kind of rental credit system.” ●

Read the article here:



Cory Memery  
CITY OF MELBOURNE  
COMMUNITY CHAMPION 2020  
CORYMEMERY@YAHOO.COM

## METRO TUNNEL



## Victorian-first platform screen doors installed in Metro Tunnel

*Platform screen doors are being installed in the Metro Tunnel’s five new underground stations as the project’s all-important milestone of train testing in the tunnels is fast approaching.*

Work to install the doors is under way at Arden Station, boosting safety and helping keep trains running on time when the Metro Tunnel opens in 2025.

The toughened glass sliding doors will open and close in tandem with the fleet of Melbourne’s new High-Capacity Metro Trains – preventing people and objects from falling into the path of oncoming trains by creating a barrier between the track and platforms.

Crews also recently fitted the final doors at Parkville Station, while work is continuing at Anzac Station and will soon start at State Library and Town Hall stations.

Platform screen doors are a hallmark of world-class rail systems, like those in London, Singapore, Hong Kong and Paris – and are a first for Victoria.

The technology has been tested in a series of rigorous trials over several years, both in virtual development and at a test platform at the Pakenham East train depot.

Sixty doors will be fitted at each station, with 300 to be installed across the project – enough to stretch from Queen Victoria Market to Flinders Street Station.

Through the twin tunnels, crews are laying the 18 kilometres of track alongside the world-class signalling, communications and power equipment that will allow test trains to begin running through the Metro Tunnel in the second half 2023.

The first 165-metre lengths of steel rail were laid at a section between Arden Station and the tunnels’ western entrance in Kensington in November.

Rail installation is expected to be finished by May 2023.

Once complete, the Metro Tunnel Project will deliver more trains, more often – creating capacity for more than a half a million extra passengers each week during peak times and saving people up to 50 minutes every day.

Metro Tunnel services will also run direct from the heart of the CBD to the airport when Melbourne Airport Rail opens in 2029. ●

## CARLTON ROTARY

## When recycling means joy at Rotary Inner Melbourne Emergency Relief Network

*Multi-Club project Rotary Inner Melbourne Emergency Relief Network (RIMERN) opened its East Brunswick warehouse doors in June 2021 to collect good quality, contemporary-style donated furniture, appliances and homewares to be rehomed with Melburnians being helped into secure housing.*



The people assisted had suffered from a range of crises including homelessness, escaping domestic violence, release from jail, refugee displacement or loss from fire or flood.

This residential recycling has kept tonnes of usable homewares out of landfill and made hundreds of Melburnians in need so happy!

Over 18 months, more of Melbourne’s leading welfare agencies have signed on as members, enabling them to order from one item to a house lot for their clients who are being helped to set up secure housing.

Agencies like Launch Housing, Melbourne City Mission, Jesuit Social Services, Cohealth, Neami National, VACCA, VALS, Sacred Heart Mission, Uniting Vic/Tas and many others have been so grateful to find a “one-stop shop” where their clients can select their own homewares, right down to décor items and artwork, so that they are not just comfortable and secure, but also proud of their very own new homes!

As Rotary Carlton spokesman and RIMERN Wednesday supervisor Keith Ryall said, “we don’t give charity, we aim for joy, and our clients are always so happy with the way their new homes look they’re proud to send us pictures and to welcome family and friends.”

Rotary Carlton is an active member club, supplying both funding and volunteers for the many tasks needed to supply around eight full house lots of goods every week!

“We always need more volunteers both at the warehouse or helping remotely, it’s always rewarding and fun, and helping people in our own neighbourhood is vital as rents are climbing, homelessness is growing and more people need support,” Keith said.

With goods coming from private donors, businesses and even property stylists, RIMERN maintains a very high standard of donations to their clients and invites potential donors to check out what they collect, what they don’t and why on their website [rimern.org.au](http://rimern.org.au).

RIMERN bridges the support offered by Eastern Emergency Relief Network (EERN) in the eastern suburbs and Western Emergency Relief Network (WERN) in the west. All three volunteer-run projects collect donated goods and supply client orders right across the greater Melbourne area.

Unsuitable donations are sent to various op shops and last month the Rotary Flemington/Kensington Op Shop located on Racecourse Rd, Flemington returned the favour by supplying RIMERN with an AED (defibrillator) for emergencies in the warehouse or nearby!

Volunteers from community groups, students, businesses and other service clubs are always welcome. RIMERN will be welcoming students from Newman College at the University of Melbourne soon.

Interested groups and organisations can apply via the website [rimern.org.au](http://rimern.org.au). RIMERN operates Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10am to 3pm and on Saturdays from 10am to 2pm.

Please email Keith Ryall from the Carlton Rotary Club with any enquiries at [keithfryall@gmail.com](mailto:keithfryall@gmail.com) or Rotary Carlton president Ian Ada at [iada@bigpond.net.au](mailto:iada@bigpond.net.au).

The Rotary Club of Carlton continues to meet on the third Tuesday of each month at Naughtons Hotel, Royal Pde, Parkville at 6.30pm. If you would like to join us on March 21, or any other month, to find out a little more about Rotary, please contact Paul Kruspe on 0423 025 962 or [pkruspe@gmail.com](mailto:pkruspe@gmail.com) and we would make you most welcome. ●



PARKVILLE ASSOCIATION



Here we go!

*As you read this column, the first three days of the VCAT hearing brought by Sinclair Dermatology will have concluded. The lead-up to this, finding professional witnesses and briefing them, collating other objectors and assisting all, has been very time consuming, but very satisfying.*

I have spent a lot of time both here and by email communication to you all so as you read this the hearing is likely to be partially over. I will advise readers of the situation in next month's column but given the number of people appearing and the gravity of the case it is unlikely to have been concluded at the hearing on February 28, most likely March 1 or 2. A big thank you to all our supporters.

One late change is that this week we found out the plans for Sinclair Dermatology include a closure of their East Melbourne operation and relocating to Parkville with all their many clients.

Enough on that subject, and on to a very special occasion – The Mar Thoma Church on Royal Parade has unveiled the new “Crown” on the tower of the former College Church on Royal Parade.

Amazingly the conservation works were managed by RBA Architects and Conservation Consultants who have been retained as our heritage expert witnesses at the VCAT hearing.

If you are walking along Royal Parade at the corner of The Avenue, take a long look at the beauty of the new “Crown”. I often wander around the corner and simply stare at the the beautiful structure. The former Crown was allowed to deteriorate and has been in a state of disrepair for more than 20 years. Congratulations to the Mar Thoma Church for raising the funds to make this wonderful event happen.

Finally in this shorter article it has been great to see students back on campus during O-Week. With three years since our first lockdown the smiles, laughter and, of course, serious studies have now begun. It has been tough for our student community, and we wish them well for 2023.

The University of Melbourne is a major part of Parkville and was founded in 1853, some 20 years before the first houses were built over the road in South Parkville. The first major build in South Parkville was Naughton's Hotel. This month was the 150th anniversary of the granting of their first liquor licence.

Clearly the students and builders needed a drink before we residents occupied the land!

Enjoy March and wish us luck! ●



Rob Moore  
PRESIDENT  
PRESIDENTPARKVILLE  
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CARLTON HISTORY GROUP

Carlton's Olympic cyclist

*On the corner of Lygon and Grattan streets in Carlton is a building with a distinctive neon sign featuring a man on a racing cycle.*

Above the neon sign are the words “Borsari's Corner”. The business that the building houses is called Ristorante Borsari. But who was Borsari?

Nino Borsari was a lad from a poor background in Italy, who at age 21 became a gold medal-winning cyclist for Italy at the 1932 Olympics in Los Angeles, winning a gold medal in the 4000-metre team pursuit race. Two years later, in 1934, he was invited to Australia to compete in a thousand-mile cycle road race that was part of the celebrations marking the centenary of the founding of Melbourne. Nino delighted the Australian crowds with his happy disposition and won the alpine stage of the race from Mt Buffalo to Omeo.

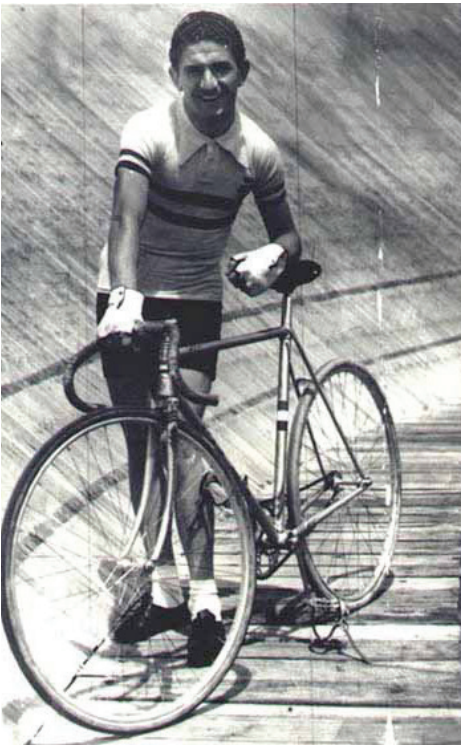
In March 1940 he was back in Australia racing. But when Mussolini's Italy entered the war in June that year, he found himself caught here and unable to return home.

As an Italian citizen he was officially an “enemy alien” and was lucky not to be interned. But he was however forbidden from racing.

Instead, he opened a bicycle store on the corner of Lygon and Grattan streets. Later that year he married Fanny Cester, an Italian-born opera student who had migrated to Melbourne in 1939.

When the war ended, he and Fanny had grown so used to life in Melbourne that they did not go home to Italy. Instead, in 1946, they both became naturalised Australian citizens. Sometime in the late 1940s the prominent neon sign featuring Nino on a racing bike was placed on the bicycle shop, and the location became known as Borsari's Corner.

In the 1950s and '60s, the shop on the corner expanded to become Borsari's Emporium, selling a variety of goods to the newly arrived Italian migrants who were then coming to Carlton in large numbers – household items, giftware, jewellery, and Italian magazines and newspapers.



▲ Nino Borsari as a young racing cyclist. (Photo: Wikimedia Commons).

By 1961 the business had expanded sufficiently for them to establish a separate bicycle and sports store in the building next door.

Nino Borsari became a prominent businessman and citizen in Melbourne. In 1962 he received an Italian knighthood for his support of new immigrants in Melbourne. He was a founding member of Juventus Football Club and president of the Australian Boxing Federation. In 1988 his wife Fanny died, and eight years later he himself passed away. But his name lives on in Carlton, on the landmark corner with its distinctive neon sign. ●



Jeff Atkinson  
PRESIDENT CARLTON COMMUNITY  
HISTORY GROUP  
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Don't turn Grattan St into a road of chaos

*If the City of Melbourne reinstates its 2021 proposal to turn Grattan St from Bouverie St to Rathdowne St into a one lane each way thoroughfare (revoked in 2022 ostensibly for “community feedback”), the entire Carlton area will be affected.*

Grattan St is one of inner-city Melbourne's most historic and glorious streets, and a major thoroughfare for traffic to avoid the Melbourne CBD.

To reduce it to one lane in each direction will vastly increase congestion, compromise safety for drivers, pedestrians, and cyclists, and prevent access for emergency vehicles to the hospital precinct.

All this for a handful of cyclists who may choose to use Grattan St rather than any of the other established bike lanes in surrounding streets which carry far fewer cars.

It would most likely result in even more congestion that has already been created in Rathdowne St through the implementation of a similar program. ●



Tim Swain,  
Carlton



SEND YOUR LETTERS TO:  
ADMIN@HYPERLOCALNEWS.COM.  
AU

CARLTON NEIGHBOURHOOD  
LEARNING CENTRE



Waste not, want not: local solutions to tackle Australia's waste problem

*As a teen, I was captivated by the cartoon Captain Planet and the Planeteers. The show followed a group of youth from around the world who were chosen by the Spirit of the Earth to help protect the planet from environmental disasters.*

WORDS BY Tony Milne  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER - CNLC

Together, the Planeteers worked to stop polluters, corporations, and other forces that threatened the health of the planet. The team was led by Captain Planet, a superhero with the power to control the elements of nature. Each episode taught important lessons about environmental issues and the impact of human actions on the planet.

I wanted to be a Planeteer!  
As I got older, I realised that saving the planet wasn't as simple as having a magic ring on my finger and shouting “wind” or “water” at polluters. But I did learn we all have the power to be part of solutions.

Waste in Australia is a growing problem. With more than 76 million tonnes of waste generated annually, the impact on the environment is becoming increasingly apparent. At the Carlton Neighbourhood Learning Centre, we've responded to this challenge by developing a composting hub.

Composting food scraps is a great way to reduce waste. Food scraps make up 40 per cent of bin waste going to landfill. Composting prevents organic waste from ending up in landfill and reduces methane emissions. It's also a valuable organic material that enriches soil, reduces the need for chemical fertilisers and supports healthy gardens.

CNLC composts 22,410kg of food scraps a year, thanks to 700 households who bring their waste to our centre (and we have capacity to take more). We produce 7060kg of compost annually which is used to sustain our community garden and is packed in to bags available for sale.

Residents can drop off food scraps to our compost hub. Lodge your interest with [info@cnlc.org.au](mailto:info@cnlc.org.au). You'll receive a fridge magnet guide to what we accept in our compost and how to access our seven days a week, 24 hours a day, food scraps deposit bin.

This local compost hub demonstrates that it's possible to make a difference at the local level. Communities can create a cleaner, greener environment. Whether it's composting, recycling or other forms of waste reduction, local solutions are an important part of the solution to Australia's waste problem. ●



CARLTON RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Carlton Conversations with Peter Doherty

*The Carlton Residents Association (CRA) holds the Conversations, talks by interesting people, who are usually associated with Carlton.*

WORDS BY *Carlton Residents' Association*

In March, Laureate Professor Peter Doherty AO will give a talk titled “The Challenges Facing Us”.

Peter Doherty is well known to many for his outstanding work in medical research and for his work as an immunologist for which he received a Nobel Prize. The 1996 award was made for his research together with Rolf Zinkernagel in the field of physiology and medicine.

In 1973 they discovered how the human immune system recognises virus-ridden cells.

They established how T-cells (some of the white blood cells) can potentially kill virus-ridden cells if they can recognise foreign substances, viruses and certain other substances from the body’s own cells.

A well as being a Nobel Laureate he has recently been made a Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences; a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences; and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Victoria. He also received an AO and was Australian of the Year in 1997.

He is a patron of the Carlton-based Peter Doherty Institute, which has undertaken significant research during the COVID pandemic.

His several books highlight the wide range of his interests, including:

- *The Beginner’s Guide to Winning a Nobel Prize*
- *An Insider’s Plague Year*
- *A Light History of Hot Air*
- *The Incidental Tourist: on the road with a globetrotting Nobel Prize winner*
- *The Knowledge Wars*

- *Pandemics*
- *Sentinal chickens: what everyone needs to know*, and recently, *Empire, War, Tennis and Me*

Each year he spends three months conducting research at St Jude Children’s Research Hospital in Memphis, USA, and is a faculty member at the University of Tennessee Health Sciences Center. For nine months he works in the department of Microbiology and Immunology at The University of Melbourne.

Conversations will be at 6.30 pm on Monday, March 13 at The Clyde Hotel, corner of Cardigan and Elgin streets, Carlton.

Don’t miss this special evening: CRA Conversations “The Challenges Facing Us”. ●

For more information:  
[trybooking.com/CFMIV](https://trybooking.com/CFMIV)



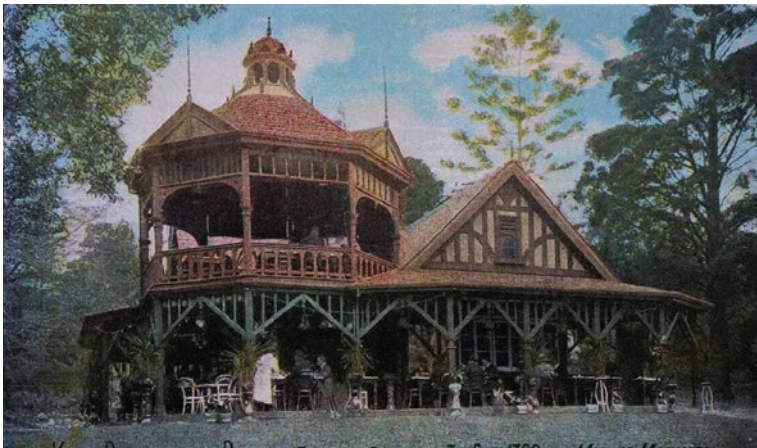
EAST MELBOURNE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Gone, but not forgotten

“

The Argus, on February 28, 1908, reported: “Some months ago the parks and gardens committee decided to make the Fitzroy Gardens more attractive by erecting a rustic kiosk, where tea, coffee and light refreshments might be dispensed ...”

”



“Aided by the government, a suitable structure was erected in the park and after arrangements had been made, whereby the Misses F. and K. Mathieu leased the kiosk for a considerable term, it was, in the presence of a large number of people, opened to the public by the Lord Mayor yesterday.”

Frances and Katherine Mathieu lived in East Melbourne and from their home it was a very short walk through the Fitzroy Gardens to the new kiosk. The sisters proved themselves good and generous operators, sponsoring many fundraising and charitable functions. The kiosk hosted numerous band recitals in its purpose-built bandstand. It was a popular spot for private parties, with news of many hitting the social pages. But in 1917 Frances died and Katherine gave up the lease.

By 1921 the council was already talking about making extensive alterations and additions to the kiosk.

These finally came to fruition in 1924. *The Herald* of January 28, 1924, gives us some details:

“The Parks and Gardens committee will spend £1000 on the structural alterations. A new flat will be constructed at the eastern end to harmonise with the rest of the building, the dining-room is to be enlarged and the band rotunda, which emerges from the roof at the north-western corner, will be utilised for private supper parties. The present shingle roof will be removed, and tiles will be substituted. Refreshments will be served on the balcony as well as in the dining-room.”

One of the people to occupy the new flat was Caroline Lockhart. One night in 1946 an enquiry agent knocked at her door in search of a wayward husband. She was confronted by Caroline bearing a loaded pistol. Caroline was later charged with having “carried an unregistered pistol and of having carried a pistol without a permit”. *The Herald*, in its report of November 14, 1946, gave her explanation ...

“Caroline Lockart said she lived alone at the kiosk and was often

troubled by people knocking on her door late at night. Sometimes she was frightened. Her father had been in charge of the business before he died, and his pistol was still in the house. She always took it with her when answering the door at night.”

On March 28, 1961 *The Canberra Times* reported:

“That rather bleak and dark kiosk in the Fitzroy Gardens will be replaced at a cost of £40,000. The replacement, in contemporary style, with a dining room seating 150, must be an improvement ...”

This second building, now known as The Pavilion, has been sitting vacant for some years. Will the Fitzroy Gardens continue to provide a place where families and friends can meet and eat away from the city’s hustle and bustle? Fingers crossed. ●

 Sylvia Black  
SECRETARY, EAST MELBOURNE HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
[INFO@EMHS.ORG.AU](mailto:INFO@EMHS.ORG.AU) / [EMHS.ORG.AU](http://EMHS.ORG.AU)

EAST MELBOURNE NEIGHBOUR NETWORK

Continuing to support the community of East Melbourne

*The East Melbourne Neighbour Network was formed in 2017 and our priorities are ...*

- To promote a spirit of neighbourliness and mutual support on issues relating to health, wellbeing and the needs of life.
- To educate and share information on issues of mutual interest, including the services provided by various organisations.
- To provide opportunities for residents of East Melbourne to interact socially.
- To mutually organise services and assistance with particular focus on health and wellbeing
- To assist residents, as far as practicable, to continue to live in their homes despite the challenges of ageing or illness.

At our monthly Morning Coffee we shared relevant information about what is going on around us.

At the East Melbourne Library, residents can book a time for a one-on-one session with library staff on minor issues with use of their phones and digital tablets.

Jenny Owen spoke to the group about the consultation process around the Yarra Park Masterplan; there was a lot of discussion over aspects of this, and residents can find details about the consultation process and complete the survey at:



Ann-Maree Eckersley reported on the health and wellbeing program, saying that instructor Joh is doing more Pilates programs, including pre- and post-natal, and programs for younger people; also Jeff can take more students in the general exercise classes

The East Melbourne Community Choir convened for its first rehearsal at 7pm on Tuesday, February 21 at the Unitarian Church, 110 Grey St. Andrea Chan is our accompanist and Robyn Cooper-Bugg is leading the choir. It was a great success with more than 40 people attending our new community choir.

The City of Melbourne is holding a session on Sunday, March 11 at the East Melbourne Library regarding the urban landscape through the area; details are available at the Participate Melbourne portal.

Mention was made of noisy disturbances

from some sites and speeding cars in the area; police have said that it is useful to report such matters, and have provided an email contact for the Melbourne East Neighbourhood Policing Unit: [NHP-Melbourne-MGR@police.vic.gov.au](mailto:NHP-Melbourne-MGR@police.vic.gov.au)

The old PLC plaque commemorating the original location of the PLC school in Albert St having been found among the rushes at Victoria and Albert, it has not yet been decided where the plaque will be located.

New ideas are sought from the community as we seek to provide additional meaningful, fun, and engaging activities for all age groups. Your ideas and involvement will help strengthen our community and enhance the health and wellbeing of your neighbours.

Contact Susan or Ann-Maree at [emnn3002@gmail.com](mailto:emnn3002@gmail.com) ●







# What's On: March 2023

## Community Calendar

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

**CELEBRATING OUR FOREMOTHERS**

March 8, 11am to 12pm.

For IWD a morning tea will be provided to honour the three foremothers of the CNLC. Three of the centre's classrooms will also be named after the women.

Carlton Neighbourhood Learning Centre  
20 Princes Street





UNTIL JUNE 25

**POETRY AND PROSE READINGS**

Last Sunday of every month, 3:30pm to 5:30pm

Calling all budding poets, writers and lyricists! Come along to this supportive monthly poetry and prose meetup.

This is a free event but please register via SMS (0416 088 000). Drinks and food are available at bar prices.

Life's Too Short Bar - Tribeca Arcade

**FARMERS MARKET**

Every Sunday. 9am to 1pm

Stalls selling fresh produce on primary school grounds.

Carlton North Primary School





**WOMEN'S SOCIAL SOCCER (FREE)**

Saturday afternoons 1pm to 3pm

Melbourne Social Soccer runs free social games for women. Contact 0456 700 688.  
admin@melbournesocialsoccer.com

Crawford Oval  
121 Princes Park



**STOMPERS**

Every Wednesday, 10:30am to 11am.

Share the wonder of books with your preschooler at this storytime with stories, songs, rhymes, and activities.

For children aged 18 months to 3 years old.

East Melbourne Library  
122 George Street  
East Melbourne



UNTIL AUGUST 31

**A NATION DIVIDED: THE GREAT WAR AND CONSCRIPTION**

This free exhibition from the Old Treasury Building tells the story of this extraordinary period in our history. Booking not required.

Old Treasury Building  
20 Spring Street  
East Melbourne



**CARLTON CONVERSATIONS**

Monday, March 13 from 6:30pm.

The Carlton Residents Association's (CRA) upcoming Conversations night will be hosting Laureate Professor Peter Doherty AO, who will be conducting a talk titled "The Challenges Facing Us".

The Clyde Hotel

To book: [trybooking.com/CFMIV](https://trybooking.com/CFMIV)

UNTIL JUNE 30.

**FITZROY GARDENS OUTDOOR ADVENTURE**

Entertain the kids by taking the outdoor adventure challenge in the heritage-listed Fitzroy Gardens. Suitable for primary school-aged children but adult assistance is necessary. 10am to 4pm.

Fitzroy Gardens Visitor Centre  
Wellington Parade, East Melbourne



# Business Directory

## Health & Fitness

Experienced Teachers | All Levels | Student Discounts



**Yoga Bhujia**  
[yogabhujia.com.au](https://yogabhujia.com.au)

11 Hagley St, Carlton  
03 9328 4637

## Psychologist



0424 220 314  
[admin@dynamicpsychotherapy.com.au](mailto:admin@dynamicpsychotherapy.com.au)  
[dynamicpsychotherapy.com.au](https://dynamicpsychotherapy.com.au)  
33 Drummond St Carlton 3053

## School

[www.haileybury.vic.edu.au](https://www.haileybury.vic.edu.au)



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## Politician

**ELLEN SANDELL**

STATE MP FOR MELBOURNE

(03) 9328 4637  
[office@ellensandell.com](mailto:office@ellensandell.com)

146 Peel Street  
North Melbourne VIC 3051

## Psychologist

*Proudly representing the community in inner Melbourne*



Evan **MULHOLLAND** MP  
Member of Parliament  
NORTHERN METROPOLITAN REGION

[evan.mulholland@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:evan.mulholland@parliament.vic.gov.au)

## Real Estate

CAINE REAL ESTATE

120 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne  
03 8413 8000  
[sales@caine.com.au](mailto:sales@caine.com.au)



SALES | LEASING | MANAGEMENT

## Tennis Coach

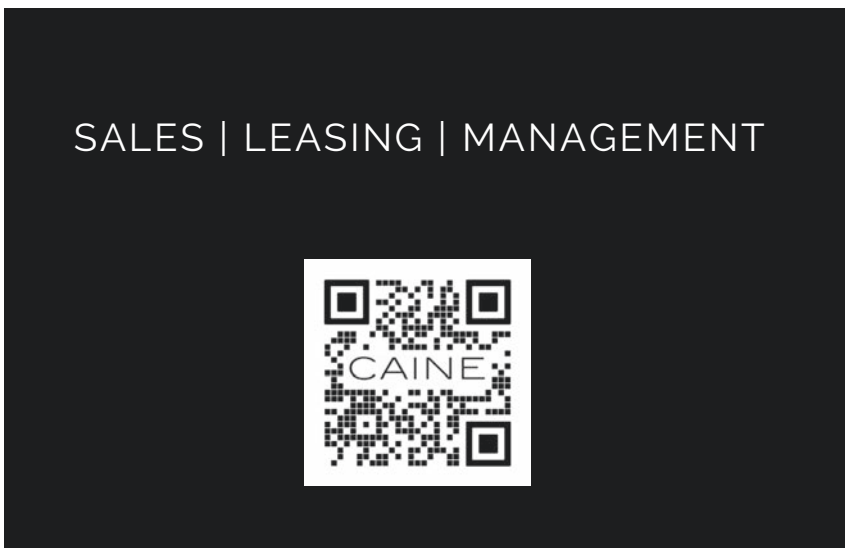


**DAN DONNELLY TENNIS COACHING PROGRAMS**

Royal Park T.C. (crn Park St & The Avenue, Parkville/Brunswick)

All enquiries & bookings – call or text Dan **0408 991 700**





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